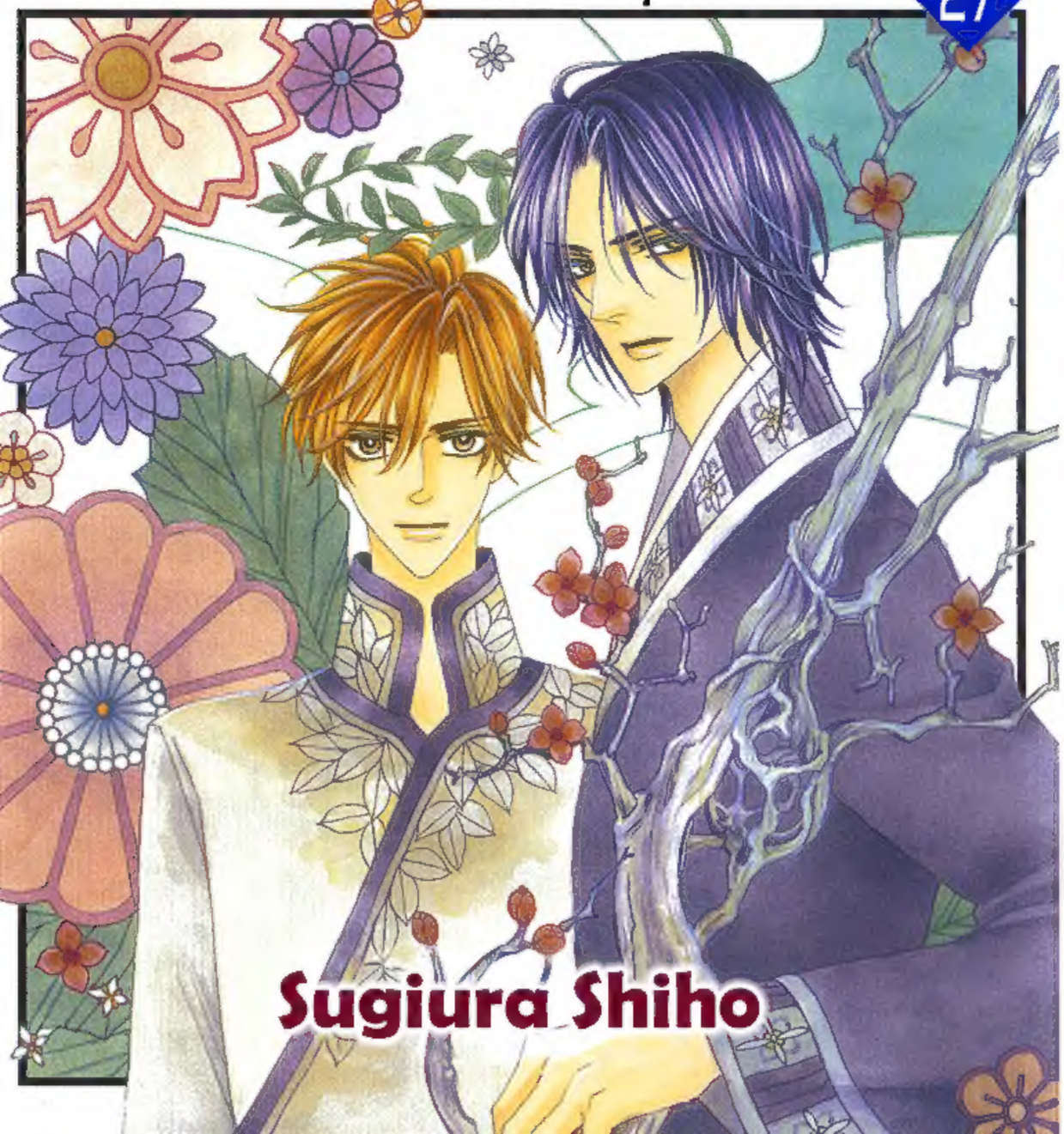
ICHIRACI TOSUISHA SPECIAL COMICS

シルバー ダイヤモンド
SILVER DIAMOND

Once Upon A Time 27



Sugiura Shiho

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SILVER DIAMOND 27

ICHIRACI Comics

[About the Volume]
Burning with what little life they have left, Rakan and Chigusa fights to protect the alternate world to the bitter end. The end has finally come!! This is the grand conclusion to this engaging alternate world fantasy!! It's a moving final volume!! The extra story about Narushige and Koh's first meeting, and the wonderful 10-page extra called "To be Continued" are also worth-seeing!

SUSIURA SHIHO-SENSEI'S COMICS

SILVER DIAMOND ①~㉗ ALL 27 VOLUMES
KOORI NO MAMONO NO MONOGATARI GAIDEN
CINDERELLA (BOY) KAKURITSURON
ISAGI-KOJIMA

<TOSUISHA BUNKOS>
KOORI NO MAMONO NO MONOGATARI ALL 14 VOLUMES
MOTTO!! KOORI NO MAMONO NO MONOGATARI
~ILLUSTRATION & DATA FILE~

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● WHILE I'VE BEEN DRAWING RAKAN SINCE HE'S THE ONE I LIKE THE MOST, THE PRINCE WAS ACTUALLY A CHARACTER I WASN'T SURE I LIKED AT FIRST. I'M REALLY PLEASED TO SAY THAT I'VE COME TO LOVE HIM AS MUCH AS I LOVE RAKAN NOW, THOUGH. I AM ALSO VERY GLAD TO FINISH OFF THE MANGA I STARTED DOING IN MY HIGH SCHOOL DAYS THIS WAY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO EVERYONE THAT LIKED THE SERIES!

SILVER DIAMOND 27

Sugiura Shiho

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[First Appearance]

Chapter 79 Ichi*Raci Jun. Issue (2012/4/20)
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*Ichi*raci Comics No. 245*

SILVER DIAMOND
シルバーダイヤモンド

千銀千艸
Chigusa Senroh
THE SOLE MEMBER OF THE SENROH FAMILY, AND HAS BEEN GOING THROUGH THE CYCLE OF LIFE AND DEATH FOR MORE THAT 250 YEARS NOW.

treasures

feels he has the same fate with

沢羅貫
Rakan Sawa
A KIND-HEARTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. HAS THE POWER OF THE SANOME, THE ABILITY TO GROW THE ALTERNATE WORLD'S PLANTS AT HIS WILL. HAS THE SAME FACE AS THE PRINCE IN THE CAPITAL.

ALTERNATE WORLD CAPITAL

brothers with the same face?

Enemies

using each other

valued comrades

Siblings

Valued comrades

Cooperating with

Real Siblings

Comrades

ALTERNATE WORLD FRONTIER

EX-FRONTIER GUARDS
SANOME PRINCE'S GUARDS

◆ONE DAY, A PERSON FROM AN ALTERNATE WORLD NAMED CHIGUSA FALLS INTO RAKAN'S GARDEN. HE CALLS RAKAN, WHO CAN GROW PLANTS AT WILL, A "SANOME" AND TELLS HIM THAT HE NEEDS HIM. ◆ RAKAN GOES TO THE ALTERNATE WORLD WITH CHIGUSA AND THE OTHERS, AND HEADS TO THE CAPITAL TO RETURN THE GREENERY IN THE ALTERNATE WORLD. ◆TAKEN DOWN BY AN ENEMY ATTACK, CHIGUSA REMEMBERS THAT HOSHIMINOKOTO SADDLED HIM WITH THE FATE OF BRING THE DEATH GOD FOR THE PAST 1,000 YEARS. DETERMINED TO FIGHT HOSHIMINOKOTO TOGETHER WITH RAKAN, HE EVOLVES THE POWER OF HIS EYES, AND FINDS OUT THAT THE "MOON" AT THE CAPITAL IS THE SOURCE OF HOSHIMINOKOTO'S POWER. ◆THEY FINALLY ARRIVE AT THE CAPITAL, AND SUCCEED IN SAVING NARUSHIGE AND DESTROYING THE "MOON". AFTER GETTING RID OF HOSHIMINOKOTO FOR GOOD THROUGH THE POWER OF THE BELL TREE, RAKAN AND CHIGUSA THEN PROCEED TO TRY AND RESCUE KINREI AND THE PRINCE. MEANWHILE, OPPOSED TO BEING RESCUED BECAUSE THEY WANT TO WIN, KINREI AND THE PRINCE SET THE CAPITAL ON FIRE, BUT THE CAPITAL IS SAVED FROM THE FLAMES THANKS TO MITAMA, WHO DECIDED TO KILL HERSELF AND TURN INTO A RIVER. ◆ RAKAN AND CHIGUSA KNEW THEY WOULD NOT LIVE FOR MUCH LONGER BUT SAVED THE WORLD WITHOUT TELLING ANYONE ABOUT IT, RESOLVED TO PUT THEIR ALL IN FIGHTING KINREI AND THE PRINCE. THEIR COMRADES FINALLY FIND OUT ABOUT THEIR LIFE SPANS AS THEY WATCH RAKAN CAPTURE KINREI AND THE PRINCE USING THE IMMORTAL BIRDS. HOWEVER, THOSE TWO ALSO HAVE ONE LAST TRICK UP THEIR SLEEVES!

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE READ VOLUMES ①-㉖!!

=STORY&CASTS=

SILVER DIAMOND
シルバーダイヤモンド

BLOOM,
SILVER WATER STONE!
TRICKLE DOWN,
AND MELT HOTLY UP IN THE SKY,
POISONOUS STONE TREE THE COLOR OF DEATH!
All are like flowers

SNAP
CRACK
CRACK
SNAP
RED
RED
RED
THE ROCK WALLS ARE TURNING CRIMSON,
AND EXPANDING LIKE BRANCHES ....!

GET AWAY FROM IT EVERY-BODY!
THE TREES RELEASES POISON!
OH!
IS FILLED WITH RAKAN-KUN'S "POWER"...
THE SEED...
Plop
TOHJI! BRING OUT A BRIDGE SEED!
GOTCHA!
LET'S MOVE TO THAT LAND OVER THERE!
kursh kursh....
SNAP--
AHH...
WE TRULY HAVE BEEN
DEPENDING ON RAKAN-KUN'S POWER ALL THIS TIME...

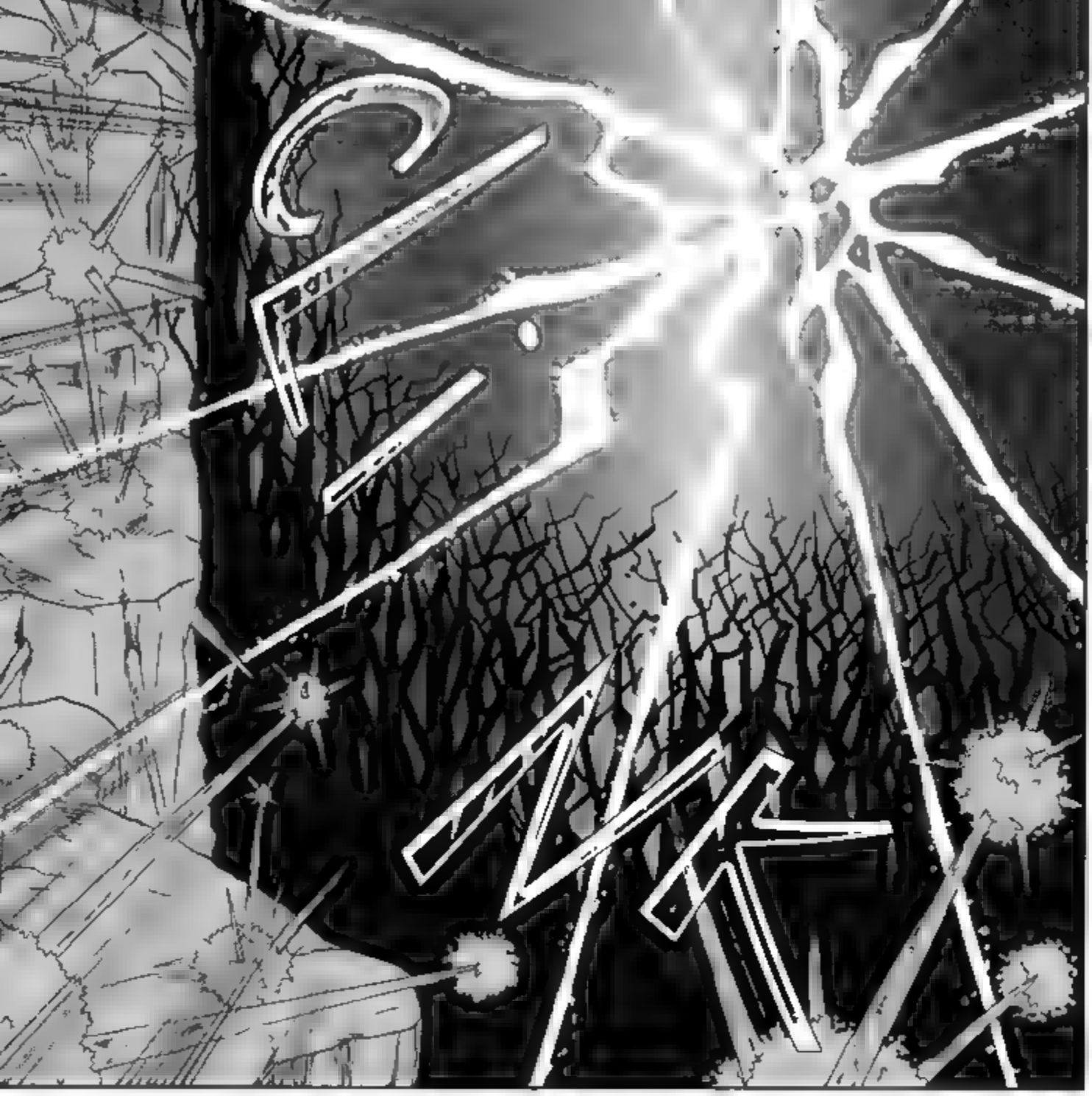
Whoosh...
CHIGUSA!
I KNOW!
I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT ITS CIRCUITS!
FIRST I NEED TO STOP THE PART THAT RELEASES POISON!
SO MANY...
YEAH.
THESE ROCK WALLS ARE ALL AROUND US...
BANG!!

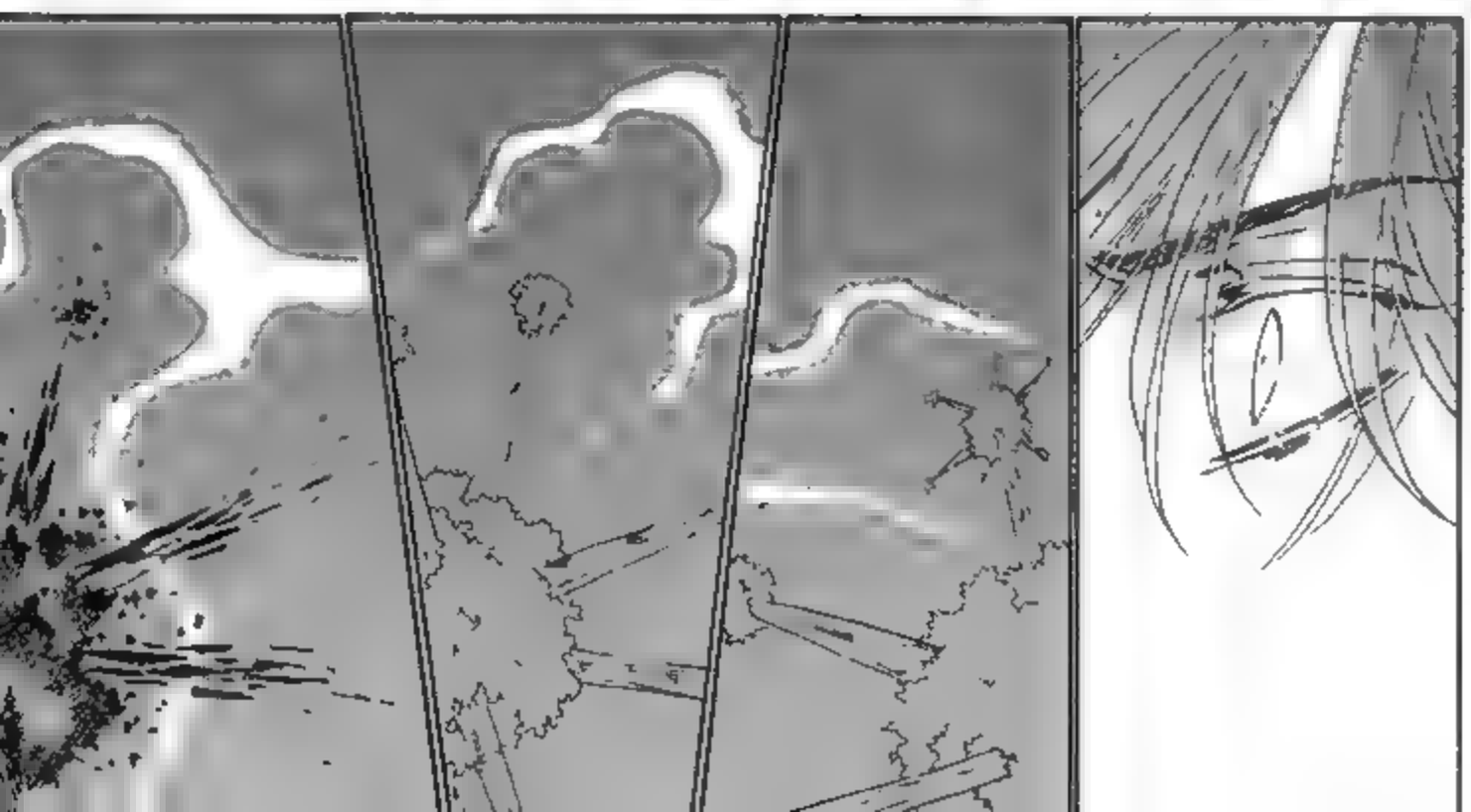
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG--!
BAN...g
...
ECHOES.
"YOU TWO TAKE CARE, OKAY?"
"YES."
"ME TOO."
"YOU TOO, RAKAN-KUN."
GUN
SHOTS.
...
CHIGUSA
...!

"WHY D'YOU..."
"...HUG US SO TIGHT?"
"WELL, WHY NOT?"
hug
hug
---BANG
HAVE BOTH BEEN
GOING AROUND HUGGING EVERYONE
EVERY TIME THEY HAD THE CHANCE...
COME TO THINK OF IT,
CHIGUSA AND RAKAN
...AH.

Bump
Bump
Bump
!
I'LL TRY AND TRAP ITS LEGS...!
Cre
....
...!
AK
IT MIGHT GET IN MY WAY LATER.
Clink
KURO!
Koh, I'm counting on you!
KOH!
!
Bump
Bump
bang
THAT SWORD SNAKE TOO!
Thud
by
WAIT THERE!
I'LL ALTER THESE CIRCUITS FIRST!
OK!
Bang!

!
LET'S
EAT
THOSE
...
TO
WHERE
THINGS
ARE THE
STRINGS
FROM THE
POWER
HE USES





FWOO
SH!
ONCE THAT SILVER TREE WITHERS,
THE FOUNDATION WILL BE EASIER TO BREAK!
!
DAH
THE SILVER TREE IS WITHERING!
KAZUHI!
YOU GUYS GO IN FURTHER!
GOYOU!
RUMBLE
OH NO YOU WON'T, PRINCE...!

Zoom
I'M NOT LETTING YOU WITHER EVERY-THING!
YOUR "SENSES"
ARE ALL
SPREADING OUT.....
RAKAN.

Who
Ping...

...IT'S RAKAN ...!
. NO..! THE GREEN-ERY'S IN-CREASING AGAIN!
IT STOPPED?
!
IT STOPPED WITHER-ING!
...AH!
STRENGTH FROM CHIGUSA
IS FLOWING INTO ME THROUGH OUR CONNECTED SENSES...
USE MY STRENGTH TOO,
RAKAN.
CHIGUSA!

DIE WITH ME!
IT'S FINE.
I DON'T MIND AT ALL.
RAKAN.
SORRY...
FOR PHRASING IT LIKE THAT.
THAT'S THE REASON I HAVE AN IMMORTAL BODY....
A "DEATH GOD" MEANT TO DESTROY THE UNNECESSARY ONES.
I..
A "PUPPET" MADE BY HOSHIMI-NOKOTO.
WAS ORIGINALLY
BEING CONNECTED
WITH YOU
THIS WAY...
AND I'M GLAD THAT THIS BODY BECAME USEFUL IN THE END.
...I REALLY AM.
I'M GLAD
THAT I CAN FIGHT LIKE THIS
OF MY OWN WILL.
THAT'S HOW
I WAS USED AND MANIPULATED ALL THIS TIME
I'M GLAD

HAVING SO MANY
PRECIOUS PEOPLE LIKE I DO NOW...
IS A FIRST FOR ME.
MANY...
BEING CONNECTED
WITH ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE,
WITH EVERYONE...
THE TRUTH IS, IT STILL...
bang
bang
bang
UP UNTIL I CAME HERE,
THERE HAD BEEN LOTS OF THINGS TO DO,
SO I DECIDED TO KEEP PEOPLE FROM REALIZING THE TRUTH.
AND PRETENDED TO BE AS NORMAL AS POSSIBLE.
HASN'T
SUNK IN
FOR ME...
THAT EVERY-THING WILL BE OVER SOON

IS REALLY TOO PAINFUL TO BEAR.
IT DOESN'T SIT RIGHT WITH ME .....
YOU DYING ...
...YEAH.
IT'S ACTUALLY
...PAINFUL,
LEAVING EVERYONE, ISN'T IT?
CHIGUSA DYING...
YEAH.
IT'S ACTUALLY-
...SCARY, ISN'T IT.
IT'S A QUIET SORT OF FEAR,
UNSURPRISINGLY ENOUGH
...NOW'S FINALLY THE TIME, ISN'T IT?
IT'S STARTING TO SINK IN FOR ME.
YEAH.
"Hurry."
"...There is not much time..."
HMM?
CHIGUSA, BACK THEN...
SPEAKING OF WHICH,
"HOSHIMI-NOKOTO-'SAMA?"
"WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT,"
WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK THIS IS?!
"WHO DO YOU THINK HAD DECIDED OUR FATES, HUH?!"
IS THAT WHAT HE MEANT?!
...AND THAT I DO TOO.
THAT RAKAN HAS A SHORT LIFE SPAN.
YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW

YEAH.
I'M GLAD
THAT I HAVE CHIGUSA WITH ME
...EVEN THOUGH IT IS SCARY.
YEAH.
...
CHIGUSA
...
YOU ALWAYS
GET MAD IN MY STEAD, AFTER ALL.
BACK THEN,
YOU WERE UNUSUALLY PISSED OFF.
I WAS SO HAPPY THAT YOU GOT MAD FOR MY SAKE.
THANK YOU.
PUTTING MY WHOLE LIFE
ON THE LINE LIKE THIS
MAKES ME
VERY HAPPY.
BUT...
EVEN THOUGH IT IS SCARY,
...I'M SORRY.
I REALLY AM.
...I'M HAPPY TO DO IT.
I'M TAKING CHIGUSA WITH ME.
I'M SORRY.
I JUST HAVE ONE SELFISH WISH.

?!
.....
FWUMP
!
KURE.
KURE!

PRINCE,
PLEASE USE
ALL OF IT.
MY POWER AS WELL.
OKAY.
Stare...
DIDN'T YOU TELL ME...
THAT WE WERE GOING TO DIE TOGETHER?
AH!
THE PRINCE
LOOKS SUPER PLEASED.
...BOTH OF THEM DO.
THEIR EXPRESSIONS, TOO.
THEIR AURA IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT
FROM THE TIME I FIRST SAW THEM.

"I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCE."
"I'M WAITING FOR YOU AT THE CAPITAL."
"LET'S FIGHT," HE SAID.
THAT
THAT'S GOOD..
WAS WHAT HE TRULY WANTED TO DO, THEN.
WELL, NO, IT'S NOT.
BUT..
I'M GLAD. HE WASN'T BEING TOTALLY CONTROLLED BY MOSHIMU-NOKOTO.
RAKAN.
THIS SHOULD BE THE LAST OF THE CIR-CUITS TO BE ALTERED!
BA
NG!!!
!
FWOSH!

Ss
S
PRINCE !!
THIS WILL BE MY FINAL ACT.
I'LL DESTROY
YOU ARE MUCH MORE RESPECTABLE THAN HOSHIMI-NOKOTO.
THIS IS WHO I AM, RAKAN.
I GUESS SO, PRINCE. THAT'S WHO YOU ARE, AND THIS IS WHO I AM.
...AS MUCH AS I CAN WITH THE POWER I HAVE LEFT!

THIS WILL ALSO BE OUR FINAL ACT...!
THEN I'LL STOP YOU WITH ALL MY MIGHT
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WISH TO DO,
OH YEAH...
I WONDER HOW EV-ERYONE'S DOING.
MY UNI-FORM ...
clangr
SORRY, GUYS.
SO I DEFINITELY MADE THEM VERY SAD
THEY'RE ALL GOOD PEOPLE,
THAT I PROBABLY MADE THEM VERY WORRIED, SUDDENLY DISAPPEARING LIKE THAT.
...I'M PRETTY SURE
KAZUHI,
GOUSHI-SAN,
MIYA-SAN,
!
NARU-SHIGE-SAN,
TOHJI,
!

KARAKU-SAN AND HER VILLAGE,
AND WATO-SAN AND THE KINGEN GUARDS.
SAE-CHAN,
ALL OF YOU
AKICHI AND THE OTHER GUARDS,
...AND HAKUBI
IT WAS SCARY EVEN FOR ME.
I'M SORRY
I DIDN'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO TELL YOU GUYS
I'M SORRY, I REALLY AM,
BUT..
FOR KEEPING QUIET ABOUT THESE THINGS,
...I WONDER
IF THEY'LL BE TRAUMA-TIZED
I'M SORRY, GUYS.
...IF I SAY GOODBYE TO THEM THIS WAY.
THE WORLD
WILL PROBABLY BE BETTER LIKE THAT
BUT I THINK
IT'S ACTUALLY BETTER LIKE THAT.
STILL, I HONESTLY DOUBTED
THAT EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD
WOULD ALWAYS GO THE WAY WE WANT

IT'LL BE ALRIGHT.
PLEASE DON'T DWELL ON IT, EVERYONE
...SORRY, BUT...
AFTER ALL,
THAT I CAN'T LIVE A LONG LIFE.
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE I CAN USE
THIS HANDY SANOME POWER,
THE LIVING
ARE STRONG.
.....NO.
I...
YOU'RE ALSO A PUPPET FRUIT.
YOU'RE AN ARRANGED "GOOD."
AN ARRANGED "JUSTICE" AT
I KNEW I WASN'T FROM THIS WORLD.
I WONDERED WHAT I WAS.
IN THE PAST
...THERE WAS SOME-THING
I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT.

THIS IS ME.
AND MORE PEOPLE...
AND MORE.
THEN~ I MET MORE!
WAS RAISED...
BY MY GRANDPA AND MY MOM.
I WAS RAISED NORMALLY.
BECAUSE I WAS FATED TO BE SO FROM THE START.
I DIDN'T BECOME THIS WAY
BECAUSE IT'S MY ROLE AS THE "RIGHTEOUS PRINCE"
I'M NOT DOING THESE THINGS
IS JUST COMMON SENSE, AFTER ALL...!
DOING THIS

THEN OF COURSE YOU SHOULD FIGHT!
IF YOU HAVE THE POWER TO PROTECT SOMEONE,
IF YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO DO SOMETHING, THEN USE IT!
"But I'm sure that my soul will still be here."
"I am going to die now."
"I'll turn into stone."
"Prince"
THAT'S WHAT I THINK AS WELL.
MITAMA-SAMA,
I UNDER-STAND.
.....
YES,
THERE ARE TIMES
WHEN I FEEL LIKE THOSE MEMORIES WERE ALL JUST DREAMS
Clench
IT'S PRETTY
STRANGE
"for as long as the world keeps on existing."
"I will be a part of this world..."
I DEFINITELY
WAS THERE
IN THAT WORLD.
BUT I...
WAS DEFINITELY THERE...

PROOF
THAT I WAS WITH MY FRIENDS
"REMEMBER ME, OKAY?"
"THIS IS ME."
PROOF.
THAT I WAS
IN THAT WORLD
THIS
IS PROOF.
EXISTED
THAT CHIGUSA AND I
PLEASE REMEMBER
OKAY, RINRAI-SAN.
PRINCE.
KINREI
TWO
WILL BE PROOF
THAT YOU TWO LIVED.
IF DESTROYING THIS WORLD
OSH..

WHOOSH
THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME —...!!
AH.
I'M GOING TO RUN OUT OF STRENGTH SOON
EVERYTHING'S GOING DARK
I ONLY HAVE A VAGUE SENSE OF WHAT'S THERE...
FROM MY OTHER SENSES .....
THEN PROTECTING THIS WORLD
IS PROOF THAT CHIGUSA AND I LIVED!

ARE LIKE SPARKS.
THE FLUTTERING LEAVES OUTSIDE.
THE PETALS...
MY
BEAUTIFUL
PRINCE OF FLAME.
THAT IT MAKES ME WANT TO CLOSE MY EYES.
HE'S SO BRIGHT.

WHOO
SH
I'M SORRY.
I'LL BE TAKING !.
RAKAN WITH ME ..
JUST
A LITTLE MORE !
JUST A LITTLE MORE
POWER
THIS IS THE MOST WE CAN DO
UH..
.....
.....
HUH

HUH?
STRINGS ?
OW
YOU SEE THEM ?
LOOK UP.
WE NEED TO ALTER THE "POISON" OF THE POISONOUS TREE ....
RAKAN.
HEART STRINGS .....!
ARE THE GREENERY FROM AFAR'S...
AH!
... THESE
THEY LOOK LIKE
THOSE LINES IN THE LEAVES...
WHAT'RE THEY CALLED AGAIN?
THANK YOU!
THEY'RE
LENDING US
THEIR STRENGTH ....?

THEY'RE LIKE...

...LEAF VEINS.....

WHOOSH
THEY USED
...THEIR POWERS...
JUST LIKE THEY USUALLY DO.
THEY CHANGED IT FOR US.
RAKAN.
SENROH ..
JUDGING FROM THE COLOR.
IT'S NOT POISON-OUS .
FLOWERS!
THE COLOR OF THE ROCK WALL
... CHANGED!

THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH THAT.
THERE'S A LIMIT TO HOW LONG PEOPLE CAN LIVE.
BUT I DON'T THINK
THAT'S HOW NATURE WORKS, AFTER ALL.
BECAUSE, WHERE THERE'S AN END, THERE IS ALSO A BEGINNING.
THEY CAN EVEN LIVE ON IN SPIRIT...!
HUMANS MAY HAVE MORTAL LIVES, BUT THEY ALSO POSSESS THEIR OWN UNIQUE POWER.

LIVING AS MUCH AS YOU NORMALLY WOULD,
AND EVEN ON THE OFF-CHANCE,
THEIR MEMORIES LIVE ON
ON THE PEOPLE THEY'VE TOUCHED.
...THERE IS
WHILE TREASURING WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU
THAT GOD DOES NOT EXIST, THEN THAT'S OKAY.
THAT'S THE WAY THE WORLD TURNS.
...I BELIEVE
...ABSOLUTELY NONE.
NO LIMIT TO THAT.
THAT'S ALL YOU NEED TO DO...!
...IS ENOUGH.
LIVE YOUR LIVES TO THE FULLEST.
PLEASE,

I CAN'T EVEN SEE
OF THE GREENERY ANYMORE
THE COLOR
NOT SINCE THAT TIME...
...IT WAS FOR THE BEST.
THANKS TO THAT,
WITHOUT HESITATION.
I COULD WITHER THE BEAUTIFUL GREENERY
ARE YOU SATISFIED,
PRINCE ?
I AM AS WELL.
YEAH.
YES.
THOSE ARE...
THOSE WORDS ARE
HIS "FINAL REQUEST"
.....!

SIZE

...
...!
KAZUHI...
...
KAZUHI.
HOW'S RAKAN?
AND SENROH .....?
...THEY...
BREATH-ING
AREN'T ...
ANYMORE...

.....
.....
.....
.....
I WON-
DERED
WHEN HE
COULD'VE
JUST
RETURNED
IT DIRECTLY
TO KAZUHI
LATER.
WHY HE
HANDED
THIS
OVER TO
ME...
HUH?
AH...
THIS
THING
...
LIKE THIS
AGAIN...?
SOME-
THING...
CALL...
WHAT...
WHAT
D'YOU...
YES.
EVER SINCE
HE KNEW
THAT HE
WAS
GOING TO
DIE.
.....
.....

?
!
.....!
.....!
A "MEMENTO"
...NYA?
WHAT'S THAT
OVER THERE IN THE DISTANCE
HUH?

Step...
WHAT DO WE DO, NOW?
THE SANOME PRINCE AND SENROH ARE ALL DEAD..!
KINREI-SAMA, THE PRINCE,
...THOSE FOUR...
...YORUAKI.
IT'S YORUA-KI'S TWIN...
YORUAKI.
IT'S YOUR NAME.
LOOK.

DIDN'T MIYA SAY SO BACK THEN?
AT THE "MOAT OF SUNRISE"
OH!
IT'S TRUE! THEY'RE THE COLORS OF THAT FIELD .....!
.....
SENROH AND THE SANOME PRINCE BROUGHT THEM BACK.
THEY SAID
THAT THOSE ARE THE TRUE COLORS OF DAYBREAK.
.....
.....IT'S "DAYBREAK".

T.N.: The characters used to spell Yoruaki's name means "dawn/daybreak"

MYA.
...THE SUN!
COLORS ...
THAT PRETTY ...!

THE MAJORITY OF THESE DEVELOP MENTS

WERE ALSO PART

OF HOSHIMI-NOKOTO'S PLANS.

AND IT WAS "SENGIN" WHOSE CORPSE WILL MERGE WITH THE TREE AS ITS NOURISHMENT.
BUT PLANS CHANGED,
THE KINGEN "KINREI" WAS PLANNED TO BE THE ONE SACRIFICED TO THE TREE.
INITIALLY,
WILL TURN INTO A TREE NOT LONG AFTER HE DIES.
THE SANOME PRINCE... "RAKAN"
THANKS TO SENROH BLOOD,-
WILL BEAR FRUIT TO PRODUCE A NEW, ENHANCED RACE.
IT...
WILL EVOLVE EVEN FURTHER.
THE SANOME TREE
THEY WILL BE KNOWN AS THE "CHILDREN OF GOD"...
WILL BE THE ONE TO GUIDE THE FUTURE WORLD ANEW.
AND THAT RACE
A PERFECT HUMAN BEING UPON ITS COMPLETION.
SOON IT WOULD FORM A HUMAN,
ITS SEED WOULD MOST LIKELY SHINE IN SILVER
HOSHIMI-NOKOTO HAS PLANNED.
THAT IS HOW FAR

HE'S MORE OF A BEING FROM A HIGHER DIMENSION.
HE CAME FROM ELSEWHERE.
HOSHIMI-NOKOTO
IS NOT HUMAN.
WHAT...
EXACTLY IS HE TO BEGIN WITH...?
BEFORE THE AMATO EMPIRE CAME TO BE.
THAT LAND WAS THE WORLD
IN THE BEGINNING,
THERE WAS A DESERTED LAND.
TO THAT DESERTED PLACE.
...WERE CHOSEN TO BE TAKEN
PEOPLE FROM THE WORLD RAKAN CAME FROM.
PEOPLE FROM THE "JAPAN" OF THAT TIME...
A LONG, LONG TIME AGO,
MORE THAN 1,000 YEARS IN THE PAST,
THE NAME SOMEWHAT IMITATED HOW THE JAPANESE CALLED THEIR GODS
"HOSHIMI-NOKOTO."
.....
HOWEVER, AS TIME WENT BY,
HE DECIDED ON A NAME FIT FOR A "GOD".
..IT IS NOT CERTAIN
WHETHER OR NOT HOSHIMI-NOKOTO HAD A SENSE OF SELF FROM THE START.
NOR IS IT CERTAIN WHAT HIS ORIGINAL NAME WAS.
AND SO THEY STARTED LIVING THERE,
BUILDING THE WORLD ANEW.
THAT'S THE REASON
THEIR CULTURE OVERLAPS WITH JAPAN'S IN SOME PLACES

"I WONDER IF IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE HOSHIMINO-MIKOTO?"

"HOSHIMI-NOKOTO."

THE WORD "MIKOTO" IN CHIGUSA'S MIND

CAME FROM HOSHIMINOKOTO'S MEMORY.

OF HOW JAPANESE CALLED THEIR GODS

AND THEN,

IN ORDER TO REINFORCE THE SPIRIT FORM HE WOULD TURN INTO

AFTER SEPARATING FROM HIS BODY,

USING THIS TECHNIQUE, HE CREATED THE SEED THAT WOULD BEAR THE SANOME PRINCE AND THE AYAME PRINCE,

AND ARRANGED FOR THEM TO WAKE UP AROUND THE TIME THIS WORLD DETERIORATES

TO THE POINT THAT IT IS NEARING ITS END.

THAT WAS HIS MEANS OF RE-GENERATING THE WORLD.

IT WAS AN EXPERIMENT TO GUIDE THE WORLD...

A "TRIAL RUN".

HE CREATED THE "STRING" AND "MOON" SYSTEM THAT WOULD MAINTAIN HIS FORM THROUGH "PRAYERS".

A TECHNIQUE TO CONTROL THE POWER FLOW.

BANISHING YOUNG RAKAN TO A GARDEN IN THE ALTERNATE WORLD WAS ALSO PART OF HIS EXPERIMENT.

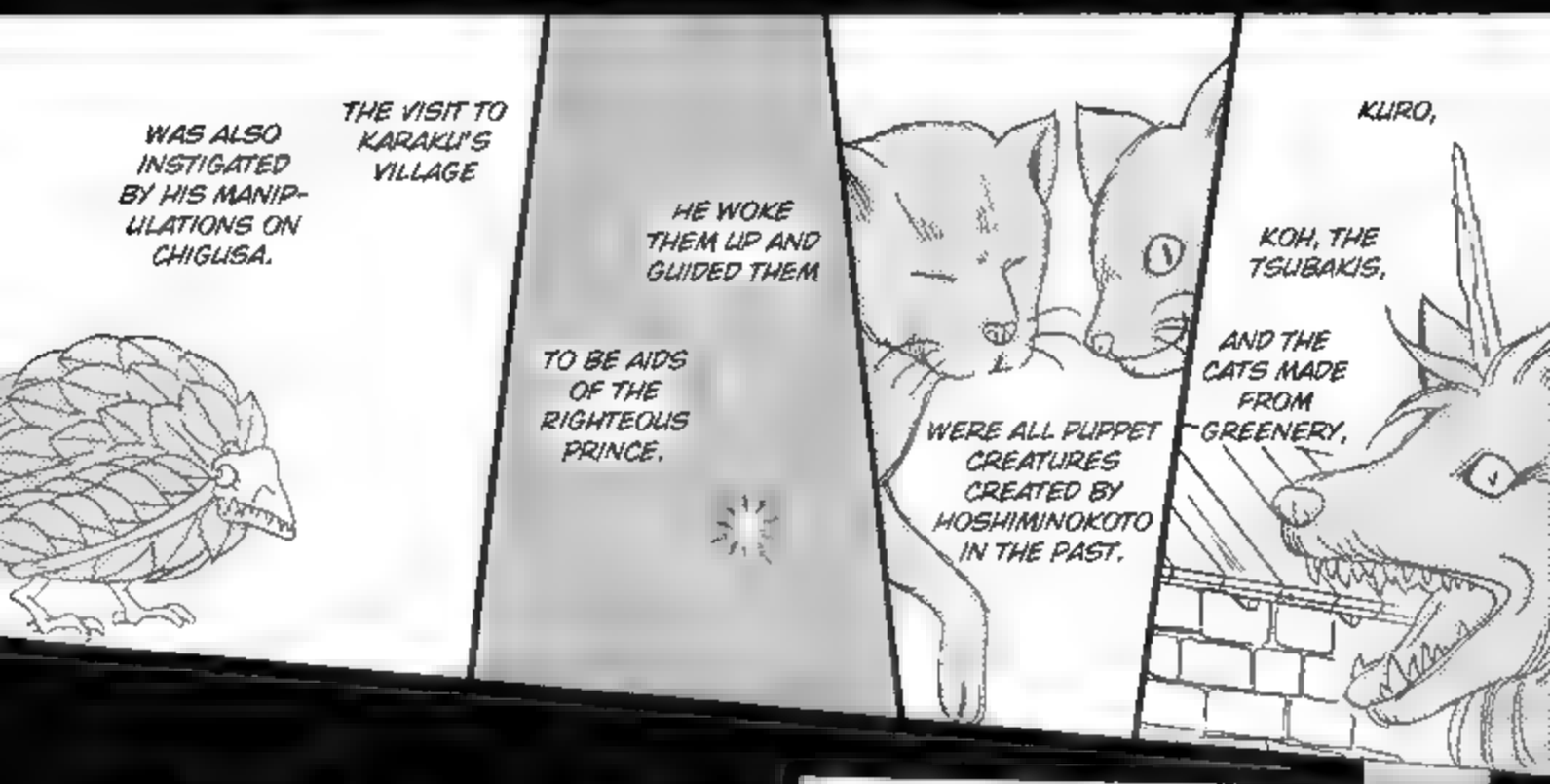
HE ISOLATED AND SHELTERED THE "RIGHTEOUS PRINCE".

BELIEVING IT MORE NECESSARY TO RAISE HIM IN GOOD HEALTH THERE, THAN TO KEEP HIM IN THE AMATO EMPIRE.

IT WAS AN EXPERIMENT TO TEST THE EFFECTS OF GROWING UP IN A DIFFERENT CULTURE.

CAN "PROPHECIES" BE CREATED?
WHAT ABOUT "FATE"?
AND WHAT ABOUT "GODS"?
WHEN THE SANOME PRINCE
WAS ABLE TO REGENERATE THE WORLD JUST AS PLANNED,
THE ONE WHO GUIDED FOR IT TO HAPPEN, HOSHIMINOKOTO, SHOULD HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED AS "GOD"
HE ARRANGED FOR THE SANOME TO BECOME THE "RIGHTEOUS PRINCE",
AND THE AYAME TO BE THE "EVIL PRINCE" THAT WOULD FIGHT AGAINST HIM
TO MAKE THE SANOME GROW INTO A "RIGHTEOUS BEING"
NARUSHIGE'S BIRTH
WAS ALSO A RESULT OF HOSHIMINOKOTO'S GUIDANCE
HE WAS SENT WITH THE ONE WHO WOULD CARRY OUT HIS TASK; THE ILL OMEN "SHIGEKA" "NARUSHIGE"
"KOH" WAS TASKED TO CLEAR THE CLOUDS FROM THE SKY
PLANS CHANGED
AND AT "SENRUH CHIGUSA" TO THE "RIGHTEOUS PRINCE"
AND "KUNGEN KUNRE" WAS ASSIGNED TO THE "AYAME PRINCE"

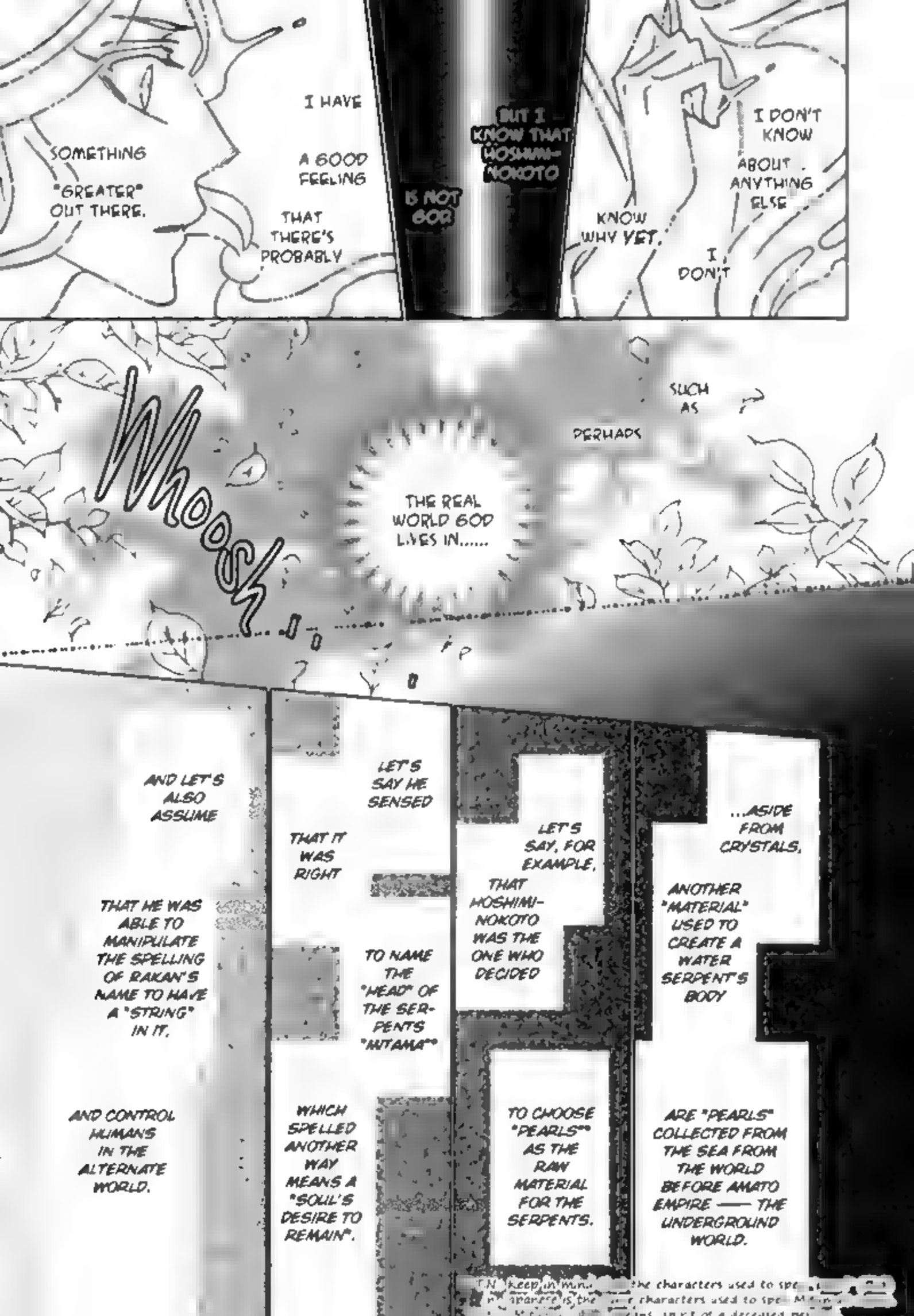
IT BECAME MUCH EASIER FOR HOSHIMI-NOKOTO TO GUIDE THEIR "FATES"....
THANKS TO THEIR FAMILY TIES,
WITH THE ROLE OF CARRYING THE LIGHT FLOWERS,
KAZUHI WAS ASSIGNED TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH,
TOHNO TOHJI WAS TASKED
WITH THE ROLE OF RELAYING INFORMATION ABOUT RAKAN'S SIDE TO KINREI AND THE PRINCE.
ON THE OTHER HAND,


WAS ALSO INSTIGATED BY HIS MANIPULATIONS ON CHIGUSA.
THE VISIT TO KARAKU'S VILLAGE
HE WOKE THEM UP AND GUIDED THEM
TO BE AIDS OF THE RIGHTEOUS PRINCE.
WERE ALL PUPPET CREATURES CREATED BY HOSHIMINOKOTO IN THE PAST.
KURO,
KOH, THE TSUBAKIS,
AND THE CATS MADE FROM GREENERY,

SO HE ELIMINATED HER.
TO THE SENROH OF HER TIME.
THAT SHE BROUGHT ABOUT [illegible] CHANGES
HE WAS OF THE OPINION
RINRAI
DUE TO HOSHIMI-NOKOTO'S GUIDANCE.
FELL ILL IN THE PAST

BECAUSE RINRAI ONCE AGAIN APPEARED IN FRONT OF "SENROH"
AS A GHOST.....
NOT WITHIN HOSHIMINOKOTO'S POWER TO MEDDLE WITH THE DESTINATION OF SOULS
HOWEVER,
IT WAS PROBABLY
HOSHIMINOKOTO DID NOT EXPECT TO HAPPEN.
WAS ONE OF THE INCIDENTS
THAT
WHERE EXACTLY DO SOULS GO AFTER DEATH..?
BRING HOSHIMINOKOTO TO?
WHERE DID THOSE BLACK SHADOWS
WHERE...
WAS RINRAI THE GHOST SUMMONED TO?
Who?

RAKAN.
SENROH
I AM NOT THE SAME
AS I USED TO BE WHEN I WAS A GHOST
AS I UNDER-STAND IT,
I WENT TO A DIFFERENT REALM.
MAYBE
THEY WERE CHOSEN
RIGHT FROM THE START...
I'M SURE THOSE TWO
WILL BE "SUMMONED" TO OUR SIDE.
THEY'LL BE CHOSEN!
SENROH.
RAKAN.
...IT'S OVER.
I'M PRETTY SURE
THAT THAT'S WHAT I AM
"...LIKE A TREE SPIRIT, HUH?"
"RINRAI-SAN!"
"YOU'RE REALLY..."
I MERGED WITH THE BELL TREE
ARE SOME SORT OF SPROUT.
THOSE STRINGS CONNECTED TO RAKAN
AND THOSE TOO...
THOSE.
THAT'S THE SORT OF ROLE WE HAVE
WATCHING OVER YOUR WORLD
THEY'RE
WE'RE
PROBABLY


I HAVE
A GOOD FEELING
THAT THERE'S PROBABLY
SOMETHING "GREATER" OUT THERE.
BUT I KNOW THAT HOSHIMI-NOKOTO
IS NOT GOD
I DON'T KNOW
ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE
KNOW WHY YET.
I DON'T
Whoosh
THE REAL WORLD GOD LIVES IN.....
PERHAPS
SUCH AS
AND LET'S ALSO ASSUME
THAT HE WAS ABLE TO MANIPULATE THE SPELLING OF RAKAN'S NAME TO HAVE A "STRING" IN IT.
AND CONTROL HUMANS IN THE ALTERNATE WORLD.
LET'S SAY HE SENSED
THAT IT WAS RIGHT
TO NAME THE "HEAD" OF THE SERPENTS "MITAMA"
WHICH SPELLED ANOTHER WAY MEANS A "SOUL'S DESIRE TO REMAIN".
LET'S SAY, FOR EXAMPLE,
THAT HOSHIMI-NOKOTO WAS THE ONE WHO DECIDED
TO CHOOSE "PEARLS" AS THE RAW MATERIAL FOR THE SERPENTS.
...ASIDE FROM CRYSTALS,
ANOTHER "MATERIAL" USED TO CREATE A WATER SERPENT'S BODY
ARE "PEARLS" COLLECTED FROM THE SEA FROM THE WORLD BEFORE AMATO EMPIRE —— THE UNDERGROUND WORLD.

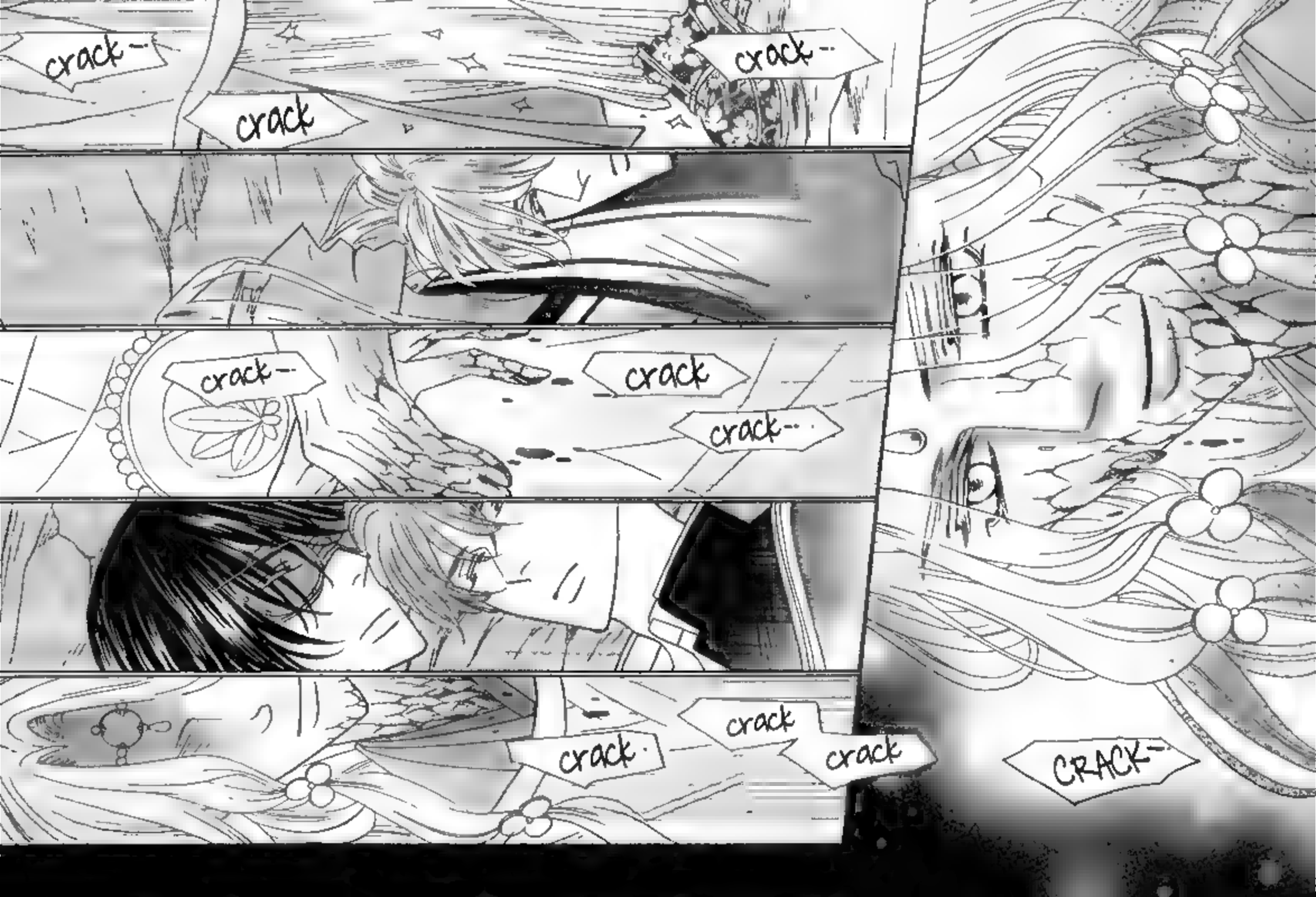
T.N. Keep in mind the characters used to spell ... characters used to spell ... means spirit of a deceased per...

THUD!
WERE SET UP BY THE "TRUE GOD"
TO BE "NOBLE SACRIFICES" FOR THE NEW WORLD...?
COULD IT BE THAT RAKAN, CHIGUSA, AND THE PRINCE, KINREI...
SHWIP
SHWIP
THERE WAS ANOTHER INCIDENT
HOSHIMI-NOKOTO
DID NOT FORESEE
THE SANOME'S GONE...?!
...HUH?

SANOMES
ARE "PUPPETS" CREATED BY HOSHIMINOKOTO.
THEY ARE COMPOSED PRIMARILY OF PLANTS.
"DOWN-WARDS" ...?
THERE ARE MORE BRIDGES GOING DOWN-WARDS NOW.
WHEN DID SHE START MAKING THEM...?
BUT THEN SHIG-EYUKI
NAMED ONE OF THEM "SAE",
AND PATIENTLY TAUGHT HER SOME WORDS.
AFTER SHE AND RAKAN WERE BAN-ISHED TO THE ALTER-NATE WORLD,
SHE SERVED AS RAKAN'S MOTHER.
HOSHIMI-NOKOTO COM-PELLED HER
INTO HELPING CHIGUSA WHEN HIS BODY WAS STILL RECOV-ERING,
AND ASSISTING IN GROWING RAKAN AND THE AYAME PRINCE.
HOWEVER, SHE ALSO SPROUTED SOME EMOTIONS ALONG THE WAY.
ALTHOUGH SHE DIDN'T POSSESS MANY EMOTIONS
WHAT FEW SHE HAD DID GROW
THE LOVE RAKAN FELT
DEFINITELY EXISTED

MAYBE
IT WAS A SURPRISE TO "WHATEVER" EXISTS IN THE HIGHER WORLD AS WELL...
HOSHIMI-NOKOTO
HAD NOT BEEN EXPECTING IT AT ALL
HER EXISTENCE WAS A COMPLETE SURPRISE FOR HIM.
EVENTUALLY,
SHE DIED AND WAS CREMATED
THEN, SPROUTING FROM HER REMAINING BONES,
WERE SEEDLINGS
OR WHAT WAS LEFT OF HER BODY,
SHE INHERITED "INFORMATION" FROM "SAE",
WHEN THE NEW SANOME WAS BORN,
—THE ORIGINAL SANOME.
"RAKAN"
OF THE SMALL BIT OF LOVE
THAT THE ORIGINAL SANOME SPROUTED.
HIS NAME
CAME FROM A FAINT MEMORY

SANOME IS
NOTHING BUT MEMORIES OF "SAE'S" LOVE
THUD.
CRACK!


crack--
crack
crack--
crack--
crack
crack--
crack
crack
crack
CRACK--

WHOOSH!!!
WHAT IS GOD?

bump
bump
Sigh...
Sigh...
SHE
HAD...

NOTHING BUT
PURE, GENUINE LOVE...
.....
SAVE

Silver Diamond

[VOL.27] CHAP. 79: ALL LIKE FLOWERS

by [illegible]

[illegible]

Amato Empire

シルバー ダイヤモンド

SILVER DIAMOND

Sujiura Shiho

Volume 27 Chapter 75

brought to you by

Amato Empire

Scanner: AccidentaLeft Proofreader: crouncomposer

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SILVER DIAMOND
シルバーダイヤモンド

A long long time ago from another world.....

Hello~ Sugiura here. This is the final volume! Thank you for reading it all! I already increased the pace of the story, but it ended up becoming 27 volumes anyway

Hmm. I'll write the spoilers in the space after the final chapter.

I was so terrified because I plunged right into writing this story without planning it all out at all, haha. I'm glad I was able to end it somehow.

Right before we started having flaps in the volume covers, I was told that people would gradually lose interest in the story if I go with the plot I had in mind. At the time, I thought that they're probably right, but stuck with it anyway. With that said, I feel nothing but gratitude to everyone in the editatorial department for letting me finish writing this story. I'm also very grateful to all my readers for staying with me until the end, even with the direction I decided to take!

I'd also like to thank all those that sent me letters so, so much! I believe it's because there are people who are interested in reading my work that I was able to write this story to the end. You've all been really motivating!

And there's also all the nice people who helped me out along the way-- my assistants, all the other people that I have always counted on, and also everyone else that have supported me along the way. Thank you to you all!

Moving on, the 10-page extra I made was for something I couldn't figure out how to squeeze in to the final chapter. After reserving some pages for it, I tried making a short bonus story using all the remaining pages (which is a feat in itself considering how bad I am at counting pages). However, in the end the pages for the extra weren't enough, (See! I told you I couldn't count!) so now I'm thinking of adding the 4-panel spoof comics in the side story volume instead, if I can fit it in.

The number one thing I've learned upon working on S is that you'll run out of pages if you have too many characters. (I'm serious.)

I know, that's like common sense

Phew...

SIR,

WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED IN THE CAPITAL...?

THE EVACUEES ARE ALL SAFE TOO!

YES, WE'RE ALL SAFE!

WHAT ABOUT YOU LOT?

...IT'S EXACTLY AS YOU'VE HEARD

...YES, SIR..

WERE YOU LISTENING TO THE DEVELOPMENTS THROUGH THE BIRDS?

I AM.

!

YUKITAKA ?!

WATO-SAMA!

ARE YOU SAFE, SIR?!

HUH?

NARUSHIGE, OVER THERE!

!

WOOSH!!

AND THE SANOME WON.

AND THE AYAME PRINCE FOUGHT,

...THE SANOME PRINCE...

.....

SUIGEN.

GENYA.

...THE SUN..

THAT'S

IN BRIGHT SUN-LIGHT

THE GREEN MEADOWS WERE BATHED

LITTLE BY LITTLE

HOWEVER

THE WORLD IS SAVED NOW.

I THINK...

SENJOH CHIGUSA

AND THE SANOME FAMILY

HAD TO SACRIFICE THEMSELVES IN EXCHANGE....!

Once Upon A Time

THE PLACE WHERE THE CAPITAL WAS PREVIOUSLY LOCATED

IS NOW A LAKE,

AND SURROUNDING IT ARE ROCK WALLS BLOOMING WITH FLOWERS...

UNDERNEATH IT IS MTAMA, SLEEPING.

SHE HAS TURNED INTO A NEW WATER SOURCE.

EACH RIVER WHERE ALL THE OTHER SERPENTS WERE

HAVE ALSO TURNED INTO LAKES.

THEN THE CYCLE REPEATS ONCE AGAIN.

WATER FLOWS OUT FROM THESE LAKES,

AND DOWN TO THE UNDER-GROUND.

CONTINU-
ING TO
SUPPORT
THE SHAT-
TERED
LAND

THE SILVER
TREES
KEPT ON
GROWING.

EVEN THE
UNDER-
GROUND
IS SLOWLY
BEING COV-
ERED IN
GREENERY

WHICH
BALAN
SCATTERED
ALL OVER
THE LAND,
HAVE
SPROUTED

THE
SEEDS.

BRIDGES
CONNECTED
THE ROADS
OVER TIME

...THE THREE REMAINING KINGENS

ACCEPTED THE TRUTH ABOUT KINREI AND THE PRINCE,

AND WERE CLUED IN TO WHAT HOSHIMI-NOKOTO WAS.

ALTHOUGH THEY DID INTEND TO STEP DOWN FROM THEIR LEADERSHIP POSITION,

IT SEEMS THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE CAPITAL DID NOT LOST THEIR RESPECT FOR THE KINGEN FAMILY.

WE ARE TRULY THANKFUL..."

"FOR EVERYTHING ALL THE KINGENS HAVE DONE TO ESTABLISH ORDER IN THE WORLD THROUGHOUT THE YEARS."

AT PRESENT, THE KINGENS HAVE PROMISED TO SPEND THE REST OF THEIR LIVES WORKING TO STABILIZE THE WORLD.

ACTING BASED ON THE INFORMATION COLLECTED AT THE UTAEDA VILLAGE,

AND THE SPECIFIC ASSIGNMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS OF THE KINGENS,

THE CAPITAL'S EVACUEES MOVED TO THE VACANT HOUSES CLOSEST TO THEIR ORIGINAL HOMES,

AND ONCE AGAIN REBUILT THE INFRASTRUCTURE THEY NEEDED.

SPENT SOME TIME GOING AROUND

AND ASSISTING IN THE RE-BUILDING PROCESS.

THE KINGEN

AND SANOME PRINCE'S GUARDS

MOTHER...

...IT IS.

.....

SAE.

MOTHER!

I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE SAFE...!

IT'S... GOOD THAT YOU'RE SAFE.

YOU TOO.

SHE WAS EXILED FROM THE SHIGEKA FAMILY.

SHINOBU-SAMA AND KASANE-SAMA...?!

YES.

THEN, YOU KILLED AND EVERYTHING ELSE SHE HAD DONE.

SHIGEYUKI TOLD HER CLAN ABOUT THE SACRIFICE INVOLVED IN PRODUCING SANOMES,

"SHIGE-YUKI."

"LET ME TAKE."

"HALF OF THE BLAME."

STILL,

SOME OF WHAT SHE DID IN THE PAST WERE SIMPLY ORDERS FROM THE KINGENS.

NOT ONLY THAT, SHE ONLY DID THOSE THINGS TO PROTECT THE WORLD.

AS A RESULT,

"KINJOU-SAMA!.."

SHE NOW LIVES IN A HOUSE SUPERVISED BY THE KINGENS,

RESTRICTED FROM LEAV-ING WHEN-EVER SHE WANTS.

THAT'S WHY BLAME WAS NOT PUT SOLELY ON SHIGEYUKI.

"ALL OF YOU MAY LIVE FREELY FROM NOW ON."

"YOU CAN FORGET YOUR ROLE."

...AND TALKED TO THEM.

AND SO KINGEN

WENT TO THE SHIGEKAS.

"THAT'S"

"...VERY SWEET OF YOU..."

THEN HE ASKED THEM TO TREASURE THE PLANTS THEY HAVE NOW,

AND TAUGHT VARIOUS AREAS NEW WAYS TO GROW MORE PLANTS.

AND THAT THE SHIGEKAS HAD SACRIFICED THEIR FREEDOM TO PROTECT EVERYONE.

HE IN-FORMED EVERYONE ELSE

THAT SANOMES CAN NO LONGER BE PRODUCED BE-CAUSE THERE ARE NO MORE "SEEDS",

...WHAT?

THEY HAD A CHANGE OF HEART

AFTER SEEING THE GREENERY INCREASE DAY BY DAY

UNDER THE SUN FOR THE FIRST TIME,

...FOUND OUT

THAT MOST OF THEM WERE USED AND MANIPULATED LIKE PUPPETS.

MEANWHILE,

KINREI AND THE PRINCE'S SECRET COMRADES

"AND DREAMS."

"WE'LL TAKE ON

ALL YOUR HOPES"

I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM KINREI AND THE PRINCE.

THEY SAID IT WAS FOR YOU AND HIS COMRADES....

.....

...THAT'S ALL THEY SAID?

WERE KINREI-SAMA AND THE PRINCE

REALLY BEING MANIPULATED BY HOSHIMI-NOKOTO...?

BUT I BELIEVE THEY WERE MOSTLY ACTING ON THEIR OWN FREE WILL.

HOSHIMINOKOTO DID CREATE THEM TO BECOME HIS PUPPETS...

...DURING THAT TIME,

THOSE TWO ALREADY KNEW THAT THEIR TIME WAS ALMOST UP.

THEY WERE PROBABLY TRYING TO KEEP YOU ALL OUT OF TROUBLE.

WHO ELSE TOOK PART IN DESTROYING THE WORLD.

THEN THE PEOPLE IN THE CAPITAL MIGHT REALIZE

...THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO TELL ME, THE ENEMY, THE MESSAGE.

THEY PROBABLY FOUGHT RAKAN AND CHIGUSA

I THINK... THEY WERE LOOKING OUT FOR ALL OF YOU IN THEIR OWN WAY.

BUT BY DOING THAT,

THEY COULD HAVE STOLEN THIS BIRD AND USED IT TO CALL YOU ALL INSTEAD...

FOR ALL OF YOU AS WELL.

DO YOU STILL WANT TO DESTROY THE WORLD?

SO,

I DON'T FEEL LIKE DESTROY-ING THE GREENERY ANYMORE.

...FINE!

I GIVE UP.

YEAH.

BESIDES, I DON'T WANT TO PUT RIKKA-SAMA'S LIFE TO WASTE.

I KNOW...

THAT THE THE FUTURE LIES

IN THESE PLANTS.

KEEP THIS WORLD FROM DYING.

WE TOO WILL HELP

...THEN THIS TIME,

IF THESE

ARE WHAT IS GOING TO REVIVE THE WORLD,

EVERYONE IS NOW AWARE

OF HOW THEY WORSHIPPED, RELIED ON,

AND LASTLY,

USED THE SANOME PRINCE, AND THE IMPERIAL PRINCE BEFORE HIM.

THAT SELF-AWARE-NESS,

AND THE LAST WORDS THE SANOME PRINCE UTTERED

HOW-EVER.

WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN BY THE PEOPLE,

TOGETHER WITH THE PAIN AND SORROW THAT THEY FELT WITH IT.

AND TRUE ENOUGH, THE WORLD REALLY WAS REVIVED,

(...PERHAPS JUST AS A HIGHER BEING OUT THERE PLANNED IT TO BE!...)

AND RAKAN HAD PRETTY MUCH BECOME TANTAMOUNT TO A "CHILD OF GOD".

MAYBE THIS TURN

THAN WHATEVER SOME "GREATER" BEING OUT THERE HAD PLANNED.

BY THOSE WHO'S FROM NOW ON

THEY WILL PROBABLY LIVE ON

PEOPLE

THOSE WHO'S LEFT A DEEP IMPRESSION ON THEM ALL

SHOULD LIVE BY THEIR OWN POWER."

THIS MOMENT

THIS MOMENT RIGHT HERE

MAKES

THE NEW BEGINNING OF THE REAL AMAZING ERE

...OH YEAH!

SAWA-SENPAI!!

.....

"SENPAI"?

Gasp

I'm just used to addressing you as my senior!

OH! PLEASE ACCEPT MY APOLOGIES ...

STOP TREATING ME LIKE I'M YOUR SENIOR!!

Pinch

But you're pretty well-known already, senpai

Pinch

Don't call me "senpai"!

...DIDN'T I TELL YOU THAT IT'S GOING TO BE VERY OBVIOUS THAT I REPEATED A YEAR

IF A FELLOW THIRD YEAR CALLS ME THAT IN A THIRD YEAR'S CLASSROOM .....?!

TO THE OTHER WORLD

SINCE I WENT FROM THIS WORLD

IT'S BEEN ABOUT TWO YEARS

Pip!
Crack

APPARENTLY, WE KEPT ON SLEEPING.

THERE WERE LOTS OF FLOWERS AT OUR FEET,

AND THE TREE ENVELOPED US, AS IF PROTECTING US.

AO TSUBAKI WATCHED OVER US,

ALL FOUR OF US WEREN'T BREATHING ANYMORE.

BUT THEN THAT SANOME CAME,

AND IT WAS ALMOST LIKE

SHE GAVE HER WHOLE LIFE TO US,...

AFTER WHICH SHE WITHERED AWAY, VANISHING.

!

Snap-!

AND EVEN THE GUARDS TOOK TURNS COMING TO SEE US.

THEN, A COUPLE OF MONTHS LATER...

Snap

CRACK-!!

Crack-

COULD IT BE...?

WHAT...?

HE SAID THAT THE TRUNK STARTED WITHERING AND SNAPPING OFF.

IT'S TRUE!

AO BROKE THE NEWS TO US...

THump

!!

RAKAN !!

SENROH ...!!

.....

...MM ...?

.....?!

...NGH...

PRINCE!

Gasp!

!

KINREI ...!

THE PRINCE

LOST HIS ABILITY TO WITHER THINGS.

SWOOSH!

OH NO! THE PRINCE...

...?!

THEY WEREN'T GIVING OFF

ANY KILLING INTENT THAT TIME EITHER...

...CHIGUSA

IN FACT,

...IT'S OKAY.

BOTH OF THEM

AREN'T GIVING OFF ANY KILLING INTENT.

NOT ANY-MORE.

I JUST WANTED

.....

TO FIGHT TO SEE WHO WAS STRONGER.

...I'M...

SATISFIED NOW.

BUT WE WILL ACCEPT ANY PUNISHMENT YOU DEEM FIT.

BE IT EXECUTION OR SOMETHING ELSE, THE DECISION IS YOURS TO MAKE.

...I'M NOT SURE AS TO WHY WE'RE STILL ALIVE RIGHT NOW,

...THE PRINCE SAYS

THAT HE IS "SATISFIED" NOW.

to the ends of the earth

But they did banish us

SHOULD WE REALLY EXECUTE THEM, THOUGH?

IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THEY BEAR ANY ILL WILL TOWARDS THE WORLD ANYMORE. .

But still

THE SANOME USED HER LIFE TO REVIVE THEM, DIDN'T SHE...?

.....

.....

TRUE ENOUGH,

THEY HAVE DONE A LOT OF UNFORGIVABLE THINGS .

THAT'S NOT EXACTLY AN EASY DECISION TO MAKE...

HOW DO WE EVEN DECIDE ON SOMETHING LIKE THAT...?

WHAT?!

Shock

THE "SHINING SAND" ..

!

IS HOSHIMINOKOTO REALLY GONE?

HE SHOULD BE...BUT...

.....

PRINCE.

ITS ALL PILED UP DOWN THERE,

WAS WASHED DOWN DEEP UNDER THE EARTH.

EVEN NOW.

THE SHINING SAND

IT'S SOMETHING ONLY YOU CAN DO.

YOU CAN DO IT AS "ATONEMENT"

FOR THROWING AWAY THESE MEN TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH, SACRIFICING PEOPLE, AND TRYING TO DESTROY THE WORLD...

SOMETHING...

ONLY I CAN DO...

TO MAKE SURE HOSHIMI-NOKOTO'S CONSCIOUSNESS

WON'T REGENERATE AGAIN.

WILL YOU

KEEP SUPERVISING THE SHINING SAND

THROUGH YOUR SENSES FOR US?

AND DO THAT AS OUR DUTY.

WE WILL BOTH STAY BELOW GROUND,

...ALL RIGHT. VERY WELL.

THE PRINCE OFFERS HIS APOLOGIES...

THIS WORLD

WILL BE SAFE FROM HIM..!

KIUREI AND I

WON'T EVER FORGIVE HOSHIMI-NOKOTO!

Whoa! I totally saw that coming.

hug

THANK YOU!

PRINCE ...

YOU TOO, KINREI!

THE PRINCE

HAS TOTALLY GOTTEN ATTACHED !!

squeeze

love

pat

...NARUSHIGE.

TOHJI.

STOP IT! YOU'RE MAKING US UNCOMFORTABLE HERE!!

KINREI'S THE ONLY ONE LEFT OUT!!

These guys just do whatever they like

WAH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING SENROH?!

SORRY FOR ALL THE TROUBLE, GUYS.

Hugs—

Hugs

WHAT'S WITH THIS SCENE?!

...

..

..

THE PRINCE'S EYES COULD ONLY SEE USING HIS EXTRASENSORY VISION...

EVER SINCE TOHJI CUT OFF THEIR "EYE CONNECTION",

(HE CANNOT SEE THE WORLD IN COLOR LIKE PEOPLE NORMALLY WOULD.)

"WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?"

"I COULD MAKE IT SO THAT YOU'D BE ABLE TO SEE NORMALLY."

"IF YOU DON'T MIND ONLY BEING ABLE TO USE YOUR EXTRASENSORY VISION ON SHINING SAND."

THANKS TO CHIGUSA,

KINREI AND THE PRINCE NOW HAVE A RESTRICTION PLACED ON THEIR ABILITIES.

THEY LIVE NEARBY BELOW THE GROUND,

IN A WHITE-WALLED ROOM THAT HOSHIMI-NOKOTO ONCE USED.

APPARENTLY PREFERRING TO CONFINE THEMSELVES

LET'S JUST TELL THEM

THAT YOU GUYS DIED!

Along with Kinrei and the Prince

AND,

AS FOR CHIGUSA AND I...

IN MY MIND, I HEARD HIM MURMUR,

"I WANNA SEE THE PRETTIER SCENERY."

"I'LL GO WITH SEEING NORMALLY, THEN."

"OKAY."

IF PEOPLE FIND OUT THAT YOU REVIVED,

THEY'LL DEFINITELY DECLARE YOU AS "GODS" THIS TIME.

AND THERE'S A GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT THEY'LL START RELYING ON YOU AGAIN.

YEAH.

...WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE BEST IF WE TOLD EVERYONE ELSE THAT YOU ALL DIED.

WE DISCUSSED WITH THE KINGENS AND WATO-SAN'S GROUP

WHAT WE'D DO IF YOU ALL MANAGED TO WAKE UP.

THANKS TO THE SUN AND WATER

AND THE FORESTS YOU'VE GROWN,

THE BUDS THAT HAVE APPEARED HERE AND THERE ARE FLOURISHING.

AND WE'RE ALSO LOOKING OVER THEIR GROWTH.

THE PEOPLE HERE

SHOULD LEARN TO LIVE ON THEIR OWN.

ALSO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO USE YOU SANOME POWERS ANYMORE, RAKAN.

YEAH.

YOU GUYS SAVED THE WORLD FOR US.

THE WORLD

HAS ONCE AGAIN ***BEGUN.***

.....

WE'LL BE OKAY.

...RAKAN-KUN...

CHIGUSA ...

SAY,

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU COULD RETURN TO YOUR PREVIOUS WORLD .?

YOU TWO HAVE DONE ENOUGH ...

YOU'VE ALREADY DONE SO MUCH FOR US.

...BOTH OF YOU RISKED YOUR LIVES

FOR THIS WORLD.

KINREI USED HIS POWER TO HELP US.

...YOU MIND HELPING US OUT?

HOW-EVER,

CHIGUSA HAD TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE CIRCUITS,

AND WORK WITH KINREI ON OPENING A PATH TO THE OTHER WORLD.

SINCE THE ABILITY TO JUMP TO ALTERNATE WORLDS HEAVILY DEPENDED ON HOSHIMI-NOKOTO'S POWER,

THUD!

.....

HOME...

STEP...

AND THEN, WHEN THINGS HAVE SOMEWHAT SETTLED DOWN...

CHIGUSA'S PRESENCE WOULD HAVE BROUGHT UNWANTED ATTENTION,

SO I HAD HIM HIDE IN THE HOUSE FOR A WHILE.

ANYWAY, SINCE I JUST SUDDENLY UPPED AND DISAPPEARED ONE DAY,

IT NATURALLY CAUSED QUITE A STIR IN MY NEIGHBOR-HOOD.

CHIGUSA ALSO FIGURED OUT A WAY

TO REOPEN AN ENTRANCE TO THE ALTERNATE WORLD.

Nice to meet you.

"I'M A LITTLE WORRIED,"

"SO I DECIDED TO HAVE A DISTANT RELATIVE OF MINE LIVE WITH ME."

THAT'S HOW I EXPLAINED HIS PRES-ENCE.

...IN CONCLUSION,

BY PRETENDING I HAD "AMNESIA".

I WEATHERED THROUGH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TIME I DISAPPEARED

GRANDPA'S FRIEND,

PULLED SOME STRINGS AND TOOK CARE OF EVERYTHING ELSE....

WHO IS VAGUELY AWARE OF MY REAL CIRCUM-STANCES,

THE MASSES WERE CONVINCED

THAT I WAS "SPIRITED AWAY".

GRANDFATHER'S OTAKU FRIEND
(Sci-fi lover)

Let's go and fool everybody!

Yo! It's been a while, Rakan!

Yes, I'm the boy that was spirited away at this day and age.

Good thing I live in the countryside

"SO, SO RELIEVED!"
"I'M SO RELIEVED!"
"THANK GOD, RAKAN...!"
"...KAGAMI..."
"RAKAN!"
"IS THAT REALLY YOU, RAKAN?! ARE YOU OKAY?!"
"SAKAI..."
"YOSHIHARA..."
"TAKAHASHI..."
"I'M SORRY,"
"I'M REALLY SORRY."
"I MADE YOU GUYS WORRY..."
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
IT'S NICE
TO SEE YOU GUYS AGAIN...!
I'M GLAD I BROUGHT YOU BACK HERE...
AT THAT TIME,
ALMOST A YEAR HAS PASSED SINCE I DIS-APPEARED FROM THIS WORLD.
GOOD FOR YOU,
RAKAN.
...I'M SORRY
FOR ALL THE TROUBLE I CAUSED.
WE'RE JUST GLAD THAT YOU'RE SAFE!

IT IS NOW SPRINGTIME, AND I'VE JUST STARTED THIRD YEAR...

AFTER THAT, I MOVED UP A YEAR.

I'm really glad you're all right!

I'm sorry I for troubling you.

AS FOR SCHOOL,

I HAD TO RETAKE SECOND YEAR AGAIN.

SOMETIMES I POKE FUN AT THE GUYS IN MY YEAR WHO CALL ME "SENPAI".

MY LIFE'S PRETTY PEACEFUL NOW.

HEY, SAWA-KUN!

Look, it's him!

I heard all the flowers he grows are now reserved.

THOSE TWO GUYS THAT CAME OVER THE OTHER DAY...

HMM?

WHO ARE THEY AGAIN, YOUR COUSINS?

Oh, Tohji and Narushige.

WHEN ARE THEY COMING BACK?

To hang out?

NO WAY, REALLY?

ARE THEY GOING TO PICK YOU UP HERE AT SCHOOL AGAIN WHEN THEY COME BACK?!

AH... THEY SAID THEY'LL COME BACK NEXT MONTH.

Yes!! Let us know when they're coming, okay?

PROBABLY ...

HOTTIE BARRIER

Think of it as a barrier which arises when something is hard to approach because it is surrounded by hotties

AH!

OH, ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THAT HOTTIE BARRIER GUY?

Yes!

YES! THOSE GUYS THAT ANCHOR THAT BARRIER!

Yeah! Those pillars are no joke!

PILLARS?

THE GUYS WHO SERVE AS THE PILLARS OF THAT BARRIER AMAZING, DON'T YOU THINK?!

See you!

WE OCCASIONALLY GO THERE TOO IN SECRET TO TEACH THEM THINGS.

THEY GO BACK AFTER LEARNING ABOUT TECHNOLOGY THEY COULD USE IN THE OTHER WORLD.

SOMETIMES, PEOPLE FROM THE OTHER WORLD

SUCH AS NARUSHIGE-SAN, TOHJI,

AND THE GUARDS COME IN TWOS AND THREES TO HANG OUT.

NARUSHIGE-SAN AND SAE-CHAN

LIVE IN A SMALL HOUSE THEY REPAIRED,

LOCATED NEAR THE CAPITAL RUINS.

!

Good morning!

YES, BROTHER!

SAE,

WOULD YOU LIKE

TO GO OVER TO SHIGEYUKI-SAMA'S PLACE TODAY?

Mornin', Sae! ♡

HEY GUYS!

Mornin'!

I BROUGHT SNACKS!

I HOPE THAT THEY'LL BE ABLE TO SLOWLY COME TO AN UNDER-STANDING...

AS THEY GRADUALLY TALK ABOUT THINGS WITH EACH OTHER.

ON THE OTHER HAND,

SHIGEYUKI-SAN LIVES ALONE IN KINGEN-SAN'S GUEST HOUSE.

NARUSHIGE AND SAE APPARENTLY VISIT HER FROM TIME TO TIME TO TALK.

TOHJI

LIVES WITH KAZUHI AND THE GUARDS.

HE SPENDS MOST OF HIS TIME AT NARUSHIGE-SAN'S HOUSE THOUGH.

GOOD MORNING!

Yo!

TOHJI!

Morning!

SHE DOING GOOD?

YES, SHE IS.

YES.

HUH? ARE YOU GOING TO SHIGEYUKI-SAN'S PLACE TODAY?

GNAW GNAW

TOHJI.

HMM?

I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING, THOUGH?

NO.

...THANKS FOR EVERY-THING.

I MEAN IT.

I SEE...

SHE'S ALLOWED TO CHECK UP ON KINJOU-SAN MORE OFTEN THAN SHE EXPECTED...

SHE SAYS

THAT'S GOOD THEN.

SO THANK YOU.

YOU'VE BEEN A GREAT SUPPORT TO ME, EVER SINCE WE'VE MET.

... ..

No,

Stop, stop, stop! That's not the problem here!

I FIGURED I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING BUT AN ESTIMATE.

WELL, I WASN'T SURE *HOW* TO ANSWER YOU

NOT REALLY, NO.

OH! SO DOES THAT MEAN I'M MORE MATURE THAN YOU ARE?

INSTANT REPLY

YOU DIDN'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT!

smile

Mm 'S good!

mmmch

...HMM?

.....

THERE'S NO NEED TO HURRY.

WE COULD HAVE LEFT TOGETHER...

WELL... I'LL GO ON AHEAD THEN, BROTHER.

I'LL ASK IF WE CAN BORROW KURO-CHAN OR... OR ONE OF THE OTHER ANIMALS.

KOH.

COULD YOU PLEASE INTERPRET FOR ME?

Sure.

WHAT? SAE...

BROTHER,

EVEN IF YOU ARE BETTER WITH MEN,

DON'T WORRY, I DON'T MIND!

HUH? DON'T MIND WHAT?

DON'T TELL ME

THE PERSON HE'S BETTER WITH?

SHE'S BEEN ACTING BASED ON THAT IDEA ALL THIS TIME?!

SHE EVEN TOOK KOH WITH HER!!

NO- BUT- WAIT-

ON THE OTHER HAND, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GREAT WITH WOMEN EITHER.

SO, WOULD IT BE BEST IF I LET HER KEEP THINKING OF ME THAT WAY...?!

Huh?! What?!

ACTUALLY,

... NARUSHIGE.

SAE.....

WHAT?

SERIOUS
I'VE SEEN A NUMBER OF TV SHOWS ABOUT SPIRITS OVER THE YEARS,
ER, I MEAN, WHEN THE AYAMES KIND ENOUGH TO LET THE PEOPLE KNOW THAT THEY WERE "MADE" FROM BLACK SPIRITS, IT MAY HAVE BEEN WHAT STARTED HELPING THEM REST IN PEACE. WHAT DO YOU THINK?!
AND MY INTUITION TELLS ME THAT WHEN PEOPLE FOUND OUT ——
WHEN YOU MAKE SOME BELL NUTS RING NEAR THEM,
OH YEAH.
THERE'S BEEN SOME NEW CHANGES WITH THE AYAMES.
THEIR
SOLID→ LIQUID→ GAS-LIKE TRANSPARENT BODY
WOULD GET EVEN MORE TRANSPARENT, AND IN SOME CASES THEY WOULD EVEN DISAPPEAR FOR GOOD.
Here you go!
THEY'VE BEEN A BIG HELP IN DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION, DOING TRADES, AND KEEPING CONTACT WITH OTHER PEOPLE.
INCIDENTALLY,
EACH VILLAGE AND SETTLEMENT HAS NOW ADOPTED ONE OF KARAKU-SAN'S BIRDS.
ALL THE VILLAGES WERE ASKED TO SOUND THE BELLS AT THEIR PLACE,
HOPING THAT IT WOULD REDUCE THE AYAMES.
"YOUR HIGHNESS?!"
"SENROH-SAMA?!"
...NATURALLY, CHIGUSA AND I INFORMED KARAKU-SAN'S VILLAGE THAT WE WERE STILL ALIVE.

"VERY WELL. WE WILL KEEP IT SECRET."

"WE'RE DOING FINE."

I THINK I'LL COME

"I WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK...!"

AND VISIT THEM AGAIN IN SECRET SOMEDAY...

Morning!

YO KURO! G'MORNING!

LET'S DECIDE AFTER WE CHECK OUT THE VEGETA-BLE FIELD.

SHOULD WE FIX THIS WALL TODAY?

LET'S SEE IF THERE'S SOME SCRAP WOOD OVER THERE!

THEY'VE JUST STARTED FIXING THEIR OWN HOUSE.

AT THE MOMENT,

WHAT SHOULD WE COOK TONIGHT?

ALL THE GUARDS SAID

THAT THEY WERE DONE HELPING REBUILD THE HOMES OF THE PEOPLE IN THE CAPITAL.

AH!

MAYBE SHE'S HERE TO BORROW KURO?

HUH?

SAE'S HERE!

she's early.

You're right!

GOOD MORNING!

blush

AH! SAE.

G'MORN-ING!

...WHAT D'YOU CALL SOMETHING LIKE THAT AGAIN...?

I SEE...

Yes, feel free.

Kuro-chan,

or one of the other animals?

May I please borrow

OHHH~

WOW...

AH.

I SEE...

THAT'S RIGHT!

SAE AND GOUSHI, HMM...?

GOUSHI'S THE SOLE DILIGENT AND WELL-ROUNDED ADULT HERE, AFTER ALL!

WELL, HE IS PROPER!

OI! WHO'S THE GUY TALKING TRASH ABOUT ME AND KAZUHI?!

"PROPER."

"RIGHT."

"RESPECT-ABLE."

What was it again...?

It's on the tip of my tongue.

What was it...?

KOH AT THAT SAME TIME

OI GOUSHI! YOU'VE GOT TWO MOTHER-IN-LAWS!!

I THINK I'LL SEE WHAT SHIGEYUKI-SAMA HAS TO SAY ABOUT IT FIRST.

IN ANY CASE,

ISN'T IT A RELIEF THOUGH, THAT IT'S GOUSHI?

I SUPPOSE...

Something like that

I'll ask Rakan about it next time.

You're kind of scary right now.

I'LL HAVE TSUBAKI DELIVER IT THEN!

OK!

OHH, SURE THING, KARAKU-SAN.

SENROH-SAMA AND THE PRINCE ON THE OTHER SIDE MY THANK-YOU LETTER?

COULD YOU GIVE

SO THIS IS HOW FAST TREES NORMALLY GROW...

THE TREE'S SO HUGE NOW!

IT'S RICHER IN COLOR TOO!

DID IT GROW MORE LEAVES AGAIN?

WHEN ARE THESE PLUMS GONNA GROW AGAIN?

WATER THOSE!

WHOOSH

THESE POTATOES CAN BE HARVESTED SOON, RIGHT?

YEP.

.....

ME TOO!

I CAN'T WAIT!

ISN'T IT ABOUT A MONTH FROM NOW?

SO THEY'RE ASKING FOR SOME PEOPLE TO OVERSEE IT.

THEY SAID THEY'RE GOING TO MAKE MORE FIELDS AT THE EASTERN LANDS THERE.

KINGEN SENT US A MESSAGE.

GOTCHA.

Uh huh

WATO-SAN SENT ONE TOO.

.....

HOW'S YORUAKI?

OH, THAT REMINDS ME...

I'M UP!

YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A KID.

I SAID I'M UP!!

YO, KAZUHI!

WAKE UP, SLEEPY-HEAD!

CHAPTER 2

BREAK-FAST IS GETTING COLD

YORUAKI-SAMA.

I'LL BE HEADING ON OVER TO AKIICHI'S PLACE NOW.

...WHAT DO YOU THINK?

...YES,

I THINK THIS MEDICINE IS ON THE RIGHT TRACK.

"YORUAKI."

"I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM SENROH."

"HIS EYES CAN SEE THROUGH ANYTHING,"

"AND SO HE HAD SOME SORT OF DIAGNOSIS FOR RIKKA-SAN..."

"THIS..."

"...IS SENROH'S AYAME BLOOD."

...ACTUALLY,

THE BLOOD IS FROM THE PRINCE.

HE GAVE IT AFTER HE WOKE UP, BUT BEFORE HE WENT UNDER-GROUND.

I SEE.

RIKKA, HM.

MIXING MY BLOOD WITH THE MEDICINE

MAY HELP HIM RECOVER

MIX THE PRINCE'S BLOOD INTO THE MEDICINE. ONCE HIS BODY GETS BETTER,

SLOWLY TRY

IF YOU FIND A GOOD BALANCE BETWEEN ALL THAT,

TO DECREASE THE SNOW FLOWERS MAKING HIM SLEEP

GIVE HIM THE PRINCE'S BLOOD LITTLE BY LITTLE.

Rakan's power would only turn him into a plant.

RIGHT NOW,

I SHUT OFF THE CIRCUITS TO PREVENT HIS SKIN FROM HARDENING MORE.

...IT WON'T HEAL THE HARDENED PARTS OF HIS SKIN.

BUT I THINK GRADUALLY MAKING IT SOFTER IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

FEED HIM SOME HERBS.

ONCE THERE'S A BOOST IN HIS HEART RATE,

I SWEAR ON THE YORUBASHIS' REPUTATION

THAT I'M GOING TO WAKE HIM UP SOMEDAY...!

I'M SURE HE'LL RECOVER SOMEDAY...

HE'S LOOKING BETTER.

LET'S KEEP USING THE SAME MEDICINE.

...WE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO CURE THE PARTS THAT HAVE TURNED INTO STONE THOUGH.

STILL,

I WANT TO TALK TO HIM AGAIN.

AND STOP HIM FROM WORRYING.

I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THINGS PROPERLY NEXT TIME!

RIKKA-SAMA...!

...BUT...

I COULD BE WRONG, THOUGH ...

ONE OF THE REASONS HE SIDED WITH KINREI-SAMA

WAS

THAT HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT ME.

IN HINDSIGHT,

MAYBE...

HE...

HAS ALWAYS BEEN FOND OF ME...

SINCE THE KAGANS DIDN'T HAVE ANY MORE CHILDREN, ...

HAKUBI CHECKS ON HIM A LOT,

SO I'M SURE HE'S OKAY FOR NOW.

BESIDES, I HELP HIM EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE TOO.

!

MYA...

I SEE... THAT'S GOOD THEN.

OHH,

WHEN YORUAKI'S UNHAPPY,

SHUT UP.

YOU CAN'T REALLY BRING YOURSELF TO HATE HIM, EH?

WELL...

HE DOESN'T TALK MUCH, BUT HE'S BEEN POSITIVE ABOUT THE WHOLE THING.

ARE YOU GOING TO LIVE AT THE YORUBASHI HOUSE AGAIN?
.....
OH?
.....
NO, YORUAKI'S THE ONE TAKING OVER THE FAMILY ANYWAY.
HUH?
WHY? YOU PLANNING TO LIVE AT THE TOHNO'S AGAIN?
AS IF! WHY WOULD YOU THINK THAT?!
YOU'RE THE ONE THAT BROUGHT IT UP!
NO, THAT WASN'T MY POINT...
WHAT A RELIEF.
That's good.
Phew.
I GUESS...
I WAS WONDERING IF THIS PLACE IS GOING TO BE OUR HOME...
LOOK, OKAY,
I WAS JUST THINKING
THAT IT WOULD BE NICE IF THE OTHER GUYS THINK
OF THIS PLACE AS THE FIRST PLACE THEY COULD CALL "THEIR HOME".
.....

YOU REALLY ARE...

THE ELDEST OUT OF ALL OF US...

NOTHING, JUST THAT YOU WERE VERY MUCH LIKE A "LEADER" JUST NOW...

WHAT D'YOU MEAN BY THAT?!

WELL, OF COURSE!

THAT'S EXACTLY

WHAT "KAZUHI" MEANS, AFTER ALL!

IT'S A GREAT NAME!

I SEE.

SO HE'S FINALLY ACCEPTED

THE RESPONSIBILITY A NAME LIKE HIS CARRIES...

WELL,

GOUSHI SHOULD PROBABLY FIND ANOTHER HOUSE THOUGH.

ONCE SAE GROWS OLDER.

Some-where close by.

WHAT?

YOU DISCUSSING THAT NOW?

So soon?

OH, GOUSHI!

WHAT THE- AKIICHI, YOU'RE HERE TOO?

YEP!

THE OTHERS THINK THE SAME WAY, YOU KNOW.

THEY ALREADY CONSIDER THIS PLACE THEIR "HOME".

SO, IF THE ONES WITH WIVES WILL HAVE TO MOVE OUT,

AND STAND, I GUESS, ON THEIR OWN TWO FEET...

WHAT ABOUT THE ONES THAT COULDN'T FIND WIVES?

HAVE A SAFE TRIP!

Go on.

WE'LL BE BORROWING KURO FOR A LITTLE WHILE THEN.

SURE.

A SYSTEM WHERE MEN THAT CAN'T FIND GIRL-FRIENDS HAVE TO FOREVER REMAIN IN THE HOUSE.

HUH? WOULDN'T THAT JUST STRESS PEOPLE OUT?

EH? ARE WE REALLY GOING WITH THAT SYSTEM?

Well, I can move out, so I'm good.

See?! You think it's terrible too!"

WOOW! I'M JEALOUS!

YEAH, IT IS

Narushige and I go take on the surname "Sawa" there too.

THAT SENROH GOES BY THE NAME "SAWA CHIGUSA" THERE?

HEY, IS IT TRUE

YUP!

TOHJI, YOU'RE GOING TO RAKAN'S HOUSE NEXT TIME, RIGHT?

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

WE CAN ALL JUST BE MEMBERS OF THE "SAWA" FAMILY!

I HEARD "SAWA" CAN ALSO BE SPELLED USING A DIFFERENT CHARACTER!

OH! LET'S GO WITH THAT THEN!

Yup!

That's okay, right?

...I SEE.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
SO WE'RE IN SAME FAMILY AS RAKAN...!
drip
drip
drip
"RAKAN."
IN THE PAST,
MY "RELATIVE", "CHIGUSA-SAN",
OFTEN CAME TO PICK ME UP BY THE BACK GATE ON HIS WAY HOME FROM THE LIBRARY OR THE GROCERY STORE
NOT REALLY...
A MODEL?!
RAKAN-SEMPAI!!
NO,
DOES HE WORK AS AS MODEL?!
WHAT IS HE?!
AT HOME?
NO, HE WORKS.
HE LIVES AT RAKAN-SEMPAI'S HOUSE. A FREELOADER?
He doesn't really seem the type though?
A mangaka?
A novelist?
PEOPLE WILL DEFINITELY GET SUSPICIOUS IF HE DOESN'T WORK.
What's an "outsider"?
That's someone who goes out.
Then how about a bar-tender?
Then maybe a day trader?
What is that again?
Then what about an "insider"?
Possible.
That's a crime!
HE'S LETTING CHIGUSA WORK PART-TIME IN PEACE AT A SECLUDED CAFE IN TOWN.
SO I ASKED A FAVOR FROM GRANDPA'S FRIEND
THAT WILL ALSO TEACH CHIGUSA ABOUT SOCIETY.
GRAND-FATHER'S OTAKU FRIEND NO. 2 (Fantasy lover.)
Oh sure.
this cafe is my hobby.
ding
dong
WELCOME!

RAKAN!
WELCOME BACK.
HIS OUTFIT IS SIMPLE
BUT RIDICU-LOUSLY EYE-CATCHING.
OH WELL. IT SUITS HIM,
SO I GUESS IT'S ALRIGHT..
...I'M BACK.
HEY RAKAN! WE.COME BACK!
It's been a while!
COME AND HAVE A DRINK UNTI. CHIGUSA IS DONE.
THEN, IF IT'S NOT MUCH TROUBLE, I'LL HAVE A COFFEE PLEASE.
COMIN' RIGHT UP!
I MUST SAY, EVER SINCE CHIGUSA STARTED WORKING HERE, THERE'S BEEN MORE LADIES COMING IN. IT'S GREAT!
Thank you!
Thank you for waiting!
Yes, the one that got spirited away!
Ohhn!
Him!
OH NO, THAT SHOULD BE OUR LINE!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR HIRING HIM.

clack
RAKAN. SORRY FOR THE WAIT!
LET'S GO.
OKAY.
HAVE YOU GOTTEN USED TO YOUR JOB?
YES, I HAVE A ROUGH IDEA OF WHAT I'M SUPPOSED TO DO.
REALLY?
YOU'RE A QUICK LEARNER,
AND YOU ALSO DO THE JOB WITH ELEGANCE. I THINK YOU REALLY FIT THE JOB!
YEAH.
PLINK
My, my, that was quite a sight!
It sure was!
WE'LL BE OFF, THEN!
ALRIGHT. GOOD WORK TODAY!
OUR MINDS ARE STILL CONNECTED EVEN NOW,
BUT, FOR SOME REASON,
THE "SIGNAL", AS WE CALL IT IN CELLPHONE TERMS, IS BAD IN THIS WORLD,
SO WE CAN'T HEAR INNER VOICES VERY WELL.

TIME

THE SUNSET

DOESN'T LOOK LIKE FLAMES ANYMORE.

THE ONLY THING KEEPING US CONNECTED

BUT,

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT'S

THAT'S HOW THE SKY IN THE OTHER WORLD LOOKS AS WELL....

I'M SURE

THAT ARE GENTLY REFLECTING THE LIGHT OF THE SETTING SUN.

RIGHT NOW, THE SKY IS FILLED WITH WAVES OF CLOUDS

AND LIGHT UP PEOPLE'S HEARTS.

FLAMES TURN INTO LIGHTS THAT LOOK LIKE GEMS,

COME TO THINK OF IT, CHIGUSA...

HM?

IN THE FUTURE...

WHEN THE KINGENS ARE GONE,

THERE'LL PROBABLY BE A LOT OF CHANGES IN DYNAMICS,

LIKE ON THEIR WORLD'S HIERARCHY AND STUFF...

WILL THEY BE ALRIGHT?

I GUESS...

THERE WILL BE SOME CHANGES FOR SURE,

BUT THAT'S ...SOMETHING THE PEOPLE IN THE OTHER WORLD,

THE ONES LIVING THERE, HAVE TO THINK AND DECIDE ON THEIR OWN.

IT'S NOTHING YOU NEED TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT, RAKAN.

YOU'RE NOT GOD, AFTER ALL.

...YEAH,

OKAY.

DIDN'T NARUSHIGE AND TOHJI TELL YOU THAT?

"RAKAN, TAKE CARE!"

"RAKAN-KUN, PLEASE ENJOY... "LIVING A NORMAL LIFE FROM NOW ON, OKAY?"

YEAH.

THAT GOES FOR YOU TOO, CHIGUSA!

OH YEAH! HEY, ON SATURDAY TWO WEEKS FROM NOW...

HMM?

KAGAMI ASKED ME TO SLEEP OVER AT HIS HOUSE...

OKAY. YOU SHOULD GO.

APPARENTLY TAKAHASHI'S ALSO RETURNING RIGHT AT THAT DAY.

I'M GOING TO START LIVING FOR THE FIRST TIME...

YEAH.

MY FUTURE WITH RAKAN IS NOT A "ROLE" I WAS MADE TO HAVE.

YEAH. FOR THAT SANOME TOO.

...WE NEED TO LIGHT SOME INCENSE

I WONDER... WHAT THAT SANOME WAS?

NARUSHIGE-SAN AND TOHJI'S COMING THE WEEK AFTER THAT, RIGHT?

YEP.

YES, LET'S. DO WE TAKE THEM ALONG WHEN WE VISIT MY FAMILY GRAVE?

SHE HAS THE SAME FACE AS MY MOTHER.

SO I'LL PRAY FOR HER AND MOM TOGETHER.

PROBABLY

.I WONDER IF IT'LL REACH THEM.

. I'VE THOUGHT IT OVER,

AND STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT THE REAL REASON

WHY THAT SANOME

SAVED THE FOUR OF US, THOUGH.

...WE DON'T EVEN KNOW

STILL, I HOPE THAT, WHEN HE'S REBORN AGAIN

IF HOSHIMI-NOKOTO WAS HUMAN IN THE FIRST PLACE.

HE'LL BE ABLE TO UNDER-STAND

THE MEANING

OF SOULS AND PRAYERS

YEAH

AND THE PRINCE TOO, DON'T WE?

.. WE HAVE TO THANK HER

FOR KINREI.

ふふふ…
ふふふ…

...YES. THE SANOME PRINCE

BESIDES,

PLANTED SOME GREENERY HERE AS WELL, AFTER ALL.

TO ME, ALL THAT'S BEAUTIFUL IS RIGHT HERE IN THIS PLACE.

KUREI,

ARE YOU REALLY SURE YOU DON'T WANT

TO LIVE ABOVE GROUND, WHERE IT'S BRIGHT AND GREEN?

creak-

Everything is in order, as usual.

I've gathered all the sand.

'S LOVELY!

INDEED.

THOSE GUYS WERE WAY TOO LENIENT

THEY LET US OFF WITH SUCH A LIGHT PUNISHMENT AND ATONEMENT

YOU SHOULD GIVE ME ONE.

NAME ME!

I DON'T HAVE MY OWN PERSONAL NAME.

UNLIKE RAKAN,

OTHER THAN "PRINCE"

...OH YEAH! KIURE!!

YES, PRINCE?

THERE'S SOMETHING THAT'S BEEN ON MY MIND FOR A WHILE NOW...

WOULD CALL ME.

A NAME THAT ONLY YOU

...VERY WELL.

THERE ONCE WAS A BOY NAMED "RAKAN"
HE BROUGHT BACK THE SUN AND THE MOON,
AND WEAVED TOGETHER THE DESERT THAT HAD SPLIT INTO PIECES WITH STRINGS OF GREENERY.
WE HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD, AFTER ALL,
SO...
I'LL TAKE MY TIME THINKING OF A GOOD NAME.
ONE DAY,
MANY, MANY YEARS FROM NOW

WATER SPIRITS IN SERPENT FORM FOLLOW HIS ORDERS.

IMMORTAL BIRDS ALSO FLY AROUND

ALONG WITH THE STONE WOLF AT HIS COMMAND.

AND THE NUMBERED CHILDREN

THAT WERE CAST AWAY TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

THE ONE-EYED MAN,

AND HIS THREE-EYED BROTHER,

WHO ARE ALSO KNOWN AS THE LIGHT FLOWER SIBLINGS.

THE ONLY MAN BORN IN THE SHIGEKA FAMILY,

THE SWORD SNAKE THAT SHINES IN SEVEN COLORS,

AT HIS SIDE

WERE THE DEATH GOD THAT HAD LIVED BY HIMSELF FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.

WHAT DO YOU WANNA EAT TODAY?

SOMEDAY,

MANY, MANY YEARS FROM NOW,

HE WILL PROBABLY BE HAILED

AS A LEGEND.

RAKAN IS THE NAME

OF THE BOY THAT PUT HIS LIFE ON THE LINE,

TO BUILD THE DYING WORLD ANEW...!

HMM.

HOWEVER.

FISH SOUNDS GOOD.

SURE.
IT'S THEIR VERY OWN SECRET ADVENTURE.
A STORY KNOWN ONLY BY THE TWO OF THEM....
Before we go home
SHALL WE STOP BY AT THE GROCERY STORE OVER THERE THEN?
THAT'S A FAIRY TALE
NO ONE IN THIS WORLD KNOWS.

◆SILVER DIAMOND / END◆

Ah, it's over!
There are spoilers, so please read it after you've read the final chapter~~

Back when I've only just made the second chapter and still hadn't fleshed out much of the plot yet, I kept on having this really terrible feeling that all four of them were going to die.

I know I'm the author, which means I could make it so that the story won't turn out that way. I kept on stewing over things, and even changed the direction of the story a couple of times, but it still turned out that way in the end. It's a little strange.

Still, I was able to write so many things that I had always hoped to write ever since I was a child. I personally had a really great time with this story . I guess that's a bit odd for me to say, but I'm happy with my work.

Hmm. Oh yeah! Only a few people probably know the name of Rakan's friend with the glasses, but please consider him as the same one from a parallel world of my old story. From the story of my first comics, that is. He has always been together with Rakan in the manga I made for fun in high school, so I had him appear as a minor character here for old time's sake. I must say, I feel pretty accomplished. I've been looking forward to putting his name out there in passing for years now! I'm so glad I somehow managed to do it in the last chapter.

Anyway, that reminds me. The title of the series doesn't really have a special meaning to it. It's just an image that came to mind when I thought about Rakan and Chigusa. (I had to decide on a title first, see.) To be honest, I only found out a few days before I started working on the manuscript for this volume that silver diamonds actually mean something (It's a little pathetic that I'm only learning about this now) I looked it up, and was really surprised at what I found out. It made me laugh a little. If you're curious, please look it up yourselves! Its meaning actually fits the plot of my story. It makes you realize that's exactly what Hoshiminokoto was aiming for

Alright, that's everything, I think.
Oh! I post hand-drawn sketches on Twitter from time to time, so if you're interested, feel free to check it out!

I've already said this at length since this is where the story ends, but let me just say thank you so, so much once again to all those that read S+

Let's see each other again at the side story volume! +

Sugiura Shinobu. 2012. The dark green color of the rain forest

Silver Diamond

[VOL 27] CHAP 80: ONCE UPON A TIME

by Sugarbu Shiba

Amato Empire

シルバー ダイヤモンド

SILVER DIAMOND

Supiura Shiho

Volume 27 Chapter 80

brought to you by

Amato Empire

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◆ SILVER DIAMOND BONUS STORY ◆

METAMORPHOSIS

BUT AN "OBJECT" .....

WHAT LAY INSIDE WAS NOTHING

ALL IT COULD SEE WAS "DARK-NESS".

IN THE BEGINNING,

.....

A "SWORD SNAKE"...?

I like you

.....You, child, are interesting.

I'll give you a "sword snake."

Yes, as I recall,...

...the sword snake is in there....

...Try opening the box in that corner.

CLACK...

I think it's awake.

A Kingen's voice detected

...."What is your name?"

Registering...

Responding to a number of set questions

Vocalizing

THIS IS A "SWORD SNAKE"?

IT'S SO SMALL...

Activating

Recovering "self" memories

Recovering "self" memories

"Process" received name

IT TALKED!

This snake talks too!

"Kai"

Detecting

A "creature" of the "same species" as "myself"

"Hai" is a "serpent"

Detecting

"Ms" is a "human"

A "child" of a "human"

Running through

processing basic information

I'll use it to kill her!

!

.....!

A SWORD!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

MY OWN SWORD!

SOMEDAY

He shall be

Test the right one for him in time!

!

You may have him.

WASN'T HE SENT TO THE GREAT SERPENT AS A SACRIFICE?!

NARU-SHIGE ...!

WHY IS HE STILL IN ONE PIECE?!

SURELY IT CAN'T HAVE

TAKEN A LIKING TO HIM, CAN IT?!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE GREAT SERPENT DIDN'T EAT HIM!

runs...

...I SEE.

...GO TO YOUR ROOM.

HERE I AM.

BACK SAFE AND SOUND.

LET'S JUST FOLLOW THEIR EXAMPLE.

EVEN THE SERPENT LET HIM LIVE.

...THAT'S THAT, I SUPPOSE.

KINJOU-SAMA ASKED ME NOT TO KILL HIM.

I DOUBT

..OR NOT

SHE EVEN CARES IF I WAS EATEN

SHE DIDN'T LOOK CONCERNED AT ALL...

... MOTHER.

Slip

HAS GROWN LARGER...!

WHEN THIS SWORD

...IT'S FINE.

Eep...

.....

I HAVE TO GO FIND IT...!!
Wiggle
Wiggle
Wiggle
DID I DROP THE SWORD SNAKE SOME-WHERE?!
HUH?
...WHAT THE?
empty
...IT'S NOT HERE!!
Analyzing
Process-ing
Learning
Learning
Learning
I SAID GIVE IT BACK! IT'S MY TURN!
OKAY! HERE!
YOU'RE SUCH A NAG, KEISUKE!
I'M TELLING DAD ON YOU!!
Search initiated
Collecting data
Collecting
Detecting
Detecting
YO!
IS YOUR GRAND-MOTHER DOING OKAY?
YEAH. SHE ACTUALLY WENT OUT FOR A WALK FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE.
Really? That's great
I KNOW THOSE THREE!
!
AH!
SWIP

HOLD ON... KOH!
There you are!
Wiggle
Wiggle
Wiggle
KOH! OVER HERE!
I NEED TO HIDE...
...IF THEY SEE ME,
THEY PICK ON ME LIKE ALWAYS!
HEY, IT'S NARUSHIGE!
THE SHIGEKA'S UNLUCKY KID!
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!!
THE ILL-OMEN!
Identi-fying
Why are you all "alone",
even though you're just a "child"?
Don't you have "parents" ?
WELL...
...I DO,
BUT...
To check out
the "town"...
Puzzled.
Taking a "walk"!
Using collected data
to converse.
Yo! 'S been a while!
You doing okay?
WHAT THE-
WHAT ARE DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

Analyzing.

Retrieving info...

Registering

Processing complete.

...Oh!

...

"NARU-SHIGE"...

.....

IT'S...

Question.

what's your name?

Hey,

Oh yeah!

DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?

...YES, I AM.

Annoyed!

..!

You're the "Ill Omen"!

UGH!

WHAT AN ARROGANT LITTLE SNAKE! HE MAKES MY BLOOD BOIL!

AND TO THINK THIS SWORD WAS A GIFT!

tap

HE ACTS LIKE HE'S SO BIG WHEN HE'S THIS SMALL!

Ohhh.

.....

Puzzled.

?

WHY ...?!

Why are you "mad"?

BECAUSE I REALLY DON'T LIKE IT...

WHEN PEOPLE CALL ME THAT!

Well, of course.

He hasn't eaten anything.

WHAT THE?

WHAT HAPPENED?

HUH?

NOW.

HE ISN'T MOVING AT ALL...!

Here.

They're fruits that grew underground.

PLOP!

Eat up, Koh.

Eat up.

I got some for you, too.

Yes. I thought I may as well.

HUH...?

ME TOO...?

May I?

...I SEE.

HE WAS HUNGRY.

DOWN...

Narushige.

YES.

I'M SORRY .....

I DIDN'T EVEN THINK OF THAT...!

Narushige.

Although he is a sword, he's also a snake...

nom nom

You need to feed him,

nom

otherwise, he'll become weak. Do be more careful.

Grr.

...!

I'm not "copying" you,

I'm studying you.

PLEASE DON'T COPY ME!

What do you mean by that?!

HUH??

You're actually quite pleased to receive something as small as this.

My, my.

...?

learning.

It tastes delicious!

IT TASTES DELICIOUS ...!

I AM!

UM.

I see

OH.

.....

...THANK YOU!

Dear me.

Good morning.

You two are getting along well as usual.

NO, WE'RE NOT!

HE DOESN'T MAKE MUCH SENSE!

AND HE KEEPS LEAVING WITHOUT TELLING ME...!

Good morning.

MITAMA-SAMA!

HE WENT OFF SOMEWHERE WITHOUT ME AGAIN...!

HAS KOH COME BY TO VISIT?

...HUH.
OKAY.
.....
...THANK YOU!!
IT FEELS AS THOUGH IT'S MY FIRST TIME
FEELING SO GIDDY.
Let's see... Feel free to read any of the books here in the meantime.
I'm sure he'll come here after he gets his fill of observing things.
Yes.
IS THAT HOW IT IS?
He doesn't mean any offense by it.
It's something he needs to do in order to grow.
He's still in the middle of learning through observation right now.
...Oh?
FEELS REALLY COSY..
BUT, THIS PLACE
I'M NOT SURE WHY,
Cheers
LOOK! THE SNAKE WENT THAT WAY!
DON'T LET IT GET AWAY!
Cheers!
LET'S MAKE IT OUR TARGET!
HERE ARE SOME ROCKS!
I just saw Koh.
that he's in a spot of trouble...
.....
...WHAT?
It seems. .

HE'S MY SWORD
BUT...
MITAMA-SAMA GAVE HIM TO ME!
MY PRECIOUS SWORD...!
DANG, THIS GUY'S QUICK!
WHA...
THEY'RE PICKING ON KOH!
OH NO!
IT'S THOSE THREE AGAIN...!
WHAT DO I DO?!
thump
thump
...MORE IMPORTANTLY,
I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY'RE PICKING ON A SNAKE THAT SMALL...!
HEY...!
OH! I HIT IT!
IF I GO OUT THERE, THEY'LL PICK ON ME TOO...!
WELL, WELL. IF IT ISN'T "NARUSHIGE."
!
STOP...
WHY DO YA WANNA HELP A SMALL SNAKE LIKE THIS?
WHAT'S WITH YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN?
PICKING ON THAT SNAKE...!
MY...
HE'S...
...SWORD...
...MINE...

THIS SNAKE IS YOURS?

WHO DOES HE THINK HE'S KIDDING...?

WHAT A FREAK!

I KNEW IT! YOU'RE NOTHING BUT AN UNLUCKY KID!

SNIP...

HE'S THE "I... OMEN" AFTER ALL!

DIDN'T WE TELL YOU NOT TO COME TO TOWN?!

Processing complete.

This is

"undesirable".

...I get it now!

You guys...

are what people call "jerks"!

WHAT'S UP WITH THIS SNAKE ...?!

IT TALKED!!

IT...

He...

WHOA..

"really doesn't like it".

when people call him the "Ill Omen"!

Stop it!

...I'VE HEARD OF SOMETHING LIKE IT BEFORE.

THE WORD IS THAT THERE'S THIS HUGE SERPENT THAT'S BEEN LIVING UNDERNEATH THE CAPITAL.

THAT HUGE SERPENT

IS PROBABLY THIS SNAKE'S... PA...RENT...

whisper

whisper

whisper

.....

.....

WHO CARES ABOUT THOSE GUYS ANYWAY!

Woosh——

CO-

COME ON!

Question.

Those guys were the three you were talking about earlier, weren't they?

Why'd you come out? You knew they'd say mean things about you!

Nope!

I'm tough!

Something like that doesn't faze me!

...ARE YOU HURT ANYWHERE?

Yo!

KOH!

Oh!
.....
I know!
What we have
is called "friendship", right?
Huh?
..Am I wrong?
..I get it now.
You're
what people call a "good child", am I right?
Processing complete.
BECAUSE!
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS HARD,
HEARING WHAT THEY SAID ABOUT ME,
...I COULDN'T JUST LET THEM DO THAT TO YOU...!

Did I say something wrong?

Super Flustered.

You're crying?!

Are you sad?!

...NO.

.....

Hey...

UGH.

Waaaa

.....

I never realized...

for such a long time

always being on his own

was unhappy

I see.

That child

...Morning...

Nudge

Morning, Narushige!

Mm...

GOOD MORNING, KOH.

YES.

Are we going to Mitama-sama's again today?

We should do something outside every once in a while!

You're just going to read books again, aren't you?

Just like those kids in town!

.....

Desperate.

Thinking it over

Oh! My bad! I wasn't thinking!

Don't cry! Don't cry!

Apologizing.

Misspoke.

Gasp.

Failed at conversation.

Oh, I see!

So I guess you don't really know about playing outside...

You don't have any friends!

You got that right!

A smile

A smile!

I...

I WON'T.

HAVE YOU AFTER ALL.

IT'S OKAY.

You should laugh more often!

is what people call "cute"!

Your laughing face...

Oh! I get it now!

HUH?

Shocking truth

Hun?!

...YOU'RE MUCH CUTER THAN ME, YOU KNOW?

WHAT WITH YOUR SMALL SIZE AND ALL.

I'm small?!

discov-ered

Decided!

Cute!

Yep!

.....

...Blush...

Ah.

What do you call this feeling?

"Fun."

I'm having

Fun too...

YOU

AHAHA

TOLD ME TO LAUGH...!

First time feeling frustrated

TRY COMPARING YOURSELF TO MITAMA-SAMA.

YOU ARE!

Ah! You're right!

heh

First time he contradicted himself.

BUT YOU TOLD ME TO EARLIER...

Don't laugh, Narushige!

Ah!! You're right!!

...Yes.

Go ahead.

You may stay here in this room,

rather than at the Shigeka residence...

It will also spare me from boredom.

The flower design on that one looks really nice on you.

I'll go with this one then.

Narushige, you look so cute!

SWIPE

"You can use it to kill that human."

"It's a deal, then."

Seems like

Narushige has forgotten.

"A SWORD SNAKE...?"

...Ahh.

OH, RIGHT!

YOU'RE A SWORD SNAKE!

Yep! Handy, aren't I?!

EVENTUALLY MEETING UP WITH THE IMPERIAL PRINCE.

AFTER THAT, THEY GREW UP SAFE AND SOUND.

MUCH

FROM THE TIME IWAMA GAVE KOH TO SARUSHIGE

HOSHIMI-NOKOTO STARTED MANIPULATING THEM

ALSO WENT JUST AS HOSHIMI-NOKOTO PLANNED...

OF WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT

This will.

can have fun, too....

Well.

No doubt the hurt he felt when he was younger still lurked somewhere deep inside his heart..

I suppose I could just leave it be.

A "ROBOT" SNAKE.

THEY WOULD CALL IT

IN RAKAN'S WORLD.

WITH A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF INFORMATION

HOSHIMI-NOKOTO CREATED

HEY!

YOU THERE! KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF!!

HE- HEY, DOESN'T THAT SOUND...

A LITTLE MISLEADING?

DIDN'T I SAY WE WERE GOING TO DECIDE THROUGH ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS?!

Didn't I?

Fine.

Looks like Narushige's having fun.

That's good.

He has lots of friends now...

A "ROBOT" SNAKE.

HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE

makes me happy as well.

that

....Ahh,

My Narushige, I expected no less from you!

OK!

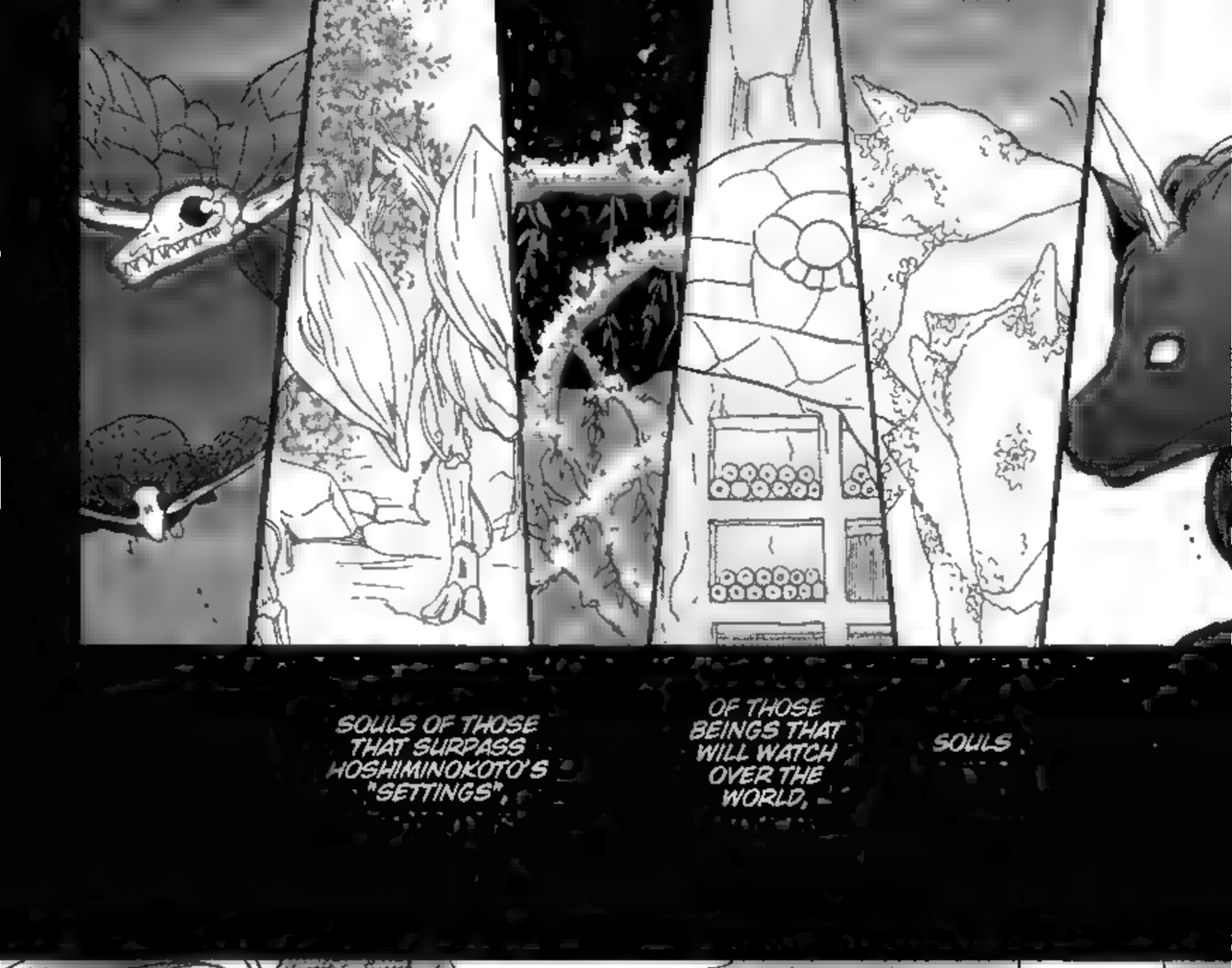
Sleep with me and Rakan-kun!

KOH!

I WON!

SOULS DEVELOPING.

THAT WAS SOMETHING HOSHIMINOKOTO WAS NOT ABLE TO FORESEE.



◆ BONUS STORY METAMORPHOSIS/END◆

Extra Story

To Be Continued

He looks so relaxed ...

HOLD ON.

I'LL GO WAKE HIM UP.

OH, HE'S ASLEEP? I'LL JUST CALL AGAIN LATER...

HELLO... KAGAMI-KUN?

clack.

YES... HUH? CHIGUSA-NIISAN?

THAT'S RIGHT.

Here.
Thanks.
HEY, SORRY ABOUT THAT. KAGAMI-KUN?
IT'S FINE! THIS ABOUT THE THING WITH TAKA-HASHI THE OTHER DAY?
Yeah. So
Shuts up
SORRY, IT WOULD'VE BEEN TOO LONG TO TEXT
.....
RAKAN
YOU HAVE A CALL FROM KAGAMI-KUN.
MM...
NO, IT'S OKAY.
WE CAN WAKE HIM UP FOR THINGS LIKE TH.S
YOUR FAMILY, IT'S GOTTEN B.GGER.
WHAT IS?
THIS IS GREAT!
HMM?
..OH YEAH RAKAN!
YOUR BATHTUB IS SO LARGE!
Compared to the other world's!
WE SHOULD'VE TAKEN A BATH TOGETHER!
Welcome back, Nanshige! ♥
WE WENT ON AHEAD AND TOOK A BATH BEFORE YOU.
I'M THE ONE BEING SPOILED HERE, THOUGH...
YOU SHOULD LET THEM SPOIL YOU MORE WHILE THEY'RE THERE
...YEAH.
THANKS.

Let me play!

OH, REALLY?

Did my best to draw a simple computer

Let's see Book-marks!

His ability to adapt is amazing.

HE'S GOTTEN REALLY GOOD AT USING THAT...

I found an interesting game online!

Oh yeah! Tohji!

Did you scrub each other's bodies?

TOGETHER?

NO, NEVER MIND. I WAS KIDDING.

NARUSHIGE-SAN! WHAT TIME SHOULD WE GO BACK TOMORROW?

11 A.M., I SUPPOSE.

OKAY, WE CAN GET READY AFTER BREAKFAST, THEN.

ALL RIGHT, I DON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH THAT.

OH!

WOW...

IT'S TRUE! WE CAME AT JUST THE RIGHT TIME.

WHAT'RE THEY, CHERRY BLOS-SOMS?

YUP!

THAT'S CALLED A "FULL BLOOM".

OHH! THEY'RE ALL OPEN!

BESIDES, RAKAN-

CHIGUSA TOOK A LOOK AT THE CIRCUITS AND GAVE THE OKAY.

IS IT OKAY FOR HIM TO USE THEM?

BUT WE TOLD HIM NOT TO USE HIS POWERS ANYMORE...

Tsk

IS MY HOBBY!!

THIS

Let me do it!

When did he start doing this?

EVERY TIME RAKAN COMES BY,

HE GETS THEM TO GROW A LITTLE MORE.

HE SAYS THE PEOPLE OF THE CAPITAL WON'T NOTICE IT IMMEDIATELY IF HE GREW THEM IN THIS AREA.

!

HE STRUCK A HARD BARGAIN TO GROW THOSE CHERRY BLOSSOMS.

TRUE, TRUE.

WE COULDN'T EXACTLY TELL HIM TO STOP...

HE SAID IT WAS HIS HOBBY...

slide..

HEY!

How's it going?

HEY RAKAN!

NO NEED FOR THAT!

RAKAN!!

LONG TIME, NO SEE!

SENROH!!

Please hand them out

OH! WOW!

WE MADE SOME RICE BALLS.

And some side dishes, too.

MIYA..

IT'S FINE. DRAG HIM OVER!

WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, BRING ENSUI, SAKUMORI, AND TOGIMARU TOO.

EVERYONE SHOULD SEE SOMETHING THIS NICE.

Here, riceballs.

WHY DON'T YOU BRING YORUAKI WITH YOU TOMORROW?

WHAT? CAN I?

THESE FLOWERS REALLY ARE PRETTY! NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!

Don't you think?!

...YEAH.

WOW...

A flower tree!

THEY ARE SO CUTE...!

THEY'RE CALLED "CHERRY BLOSSOMS".

Alright! Maybe we should bring Goushi

HM, BROTHER... WHAT ABOUT MOTHER?

BESIDES, I'D LIKE TO SHOW IT TO KINJOU-SAMA AS WELL.

HMM, LET ME THINK.

LET'S GET A BRANCH FOR HER.

OKAY!

THESE FLOWERS...

WE LOOKED AT THEM WHEN WE WERE REUNITED.

YOU'RE RIGHT!

THAT'S RIGHT.

...I WONDER IF IT WILL GO OKAY.

Yeah.

I hope so.

Lo

YOU'RE GOING TO SHIGEYUKI-SAMA'S PLACE AFTER THIS, AM I RIGHT?

THAT'S WHY

I LIKE THEM ALL THE MORE.

.....

ME, TOO.

OH?

Really?

THANK YOU.

TRUE, THAT!

DON'T WORRY!

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, AFTER ALL!

YEAH.

YOU LOOK BEST UNDER A BLUE SKY.

IT MAKES A PLEASANT BACKGROUND.

There he goes again.

He hasn't changed.

...I'M GLAD.

I COULD SHOW THIS TO YOU AND EVERYONE ELSE...

...YOU KNOW,

GOUSHI, UNLIKE SOME PEOPLE, MAKES GREAT IMPRESSIONS ON PEOPLE AFTER ALL!

HE'S RIGHT! GOUSHI, UNLIKE SOME PEOPLE, IS A RESPECTABLE MAN, AFTER ALL.

OOF

FEELS SLIGHTED.

LOOKING AT THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS UNDER A BLUE SKY IS MY FAVORITE THING TO DO.

OLD MAN!

YOU LOOK WELL, SANOME.

WATO-SAN!

You came!

HO?

Impressive.

I like blue skies too.

AO TSUBAKI!

I SEE! YOUR NAME MEANS "BLUE", AFTER ALL!

GREETINGS

OLD MAN!

CALL US BY OUR NAMES, DAMN IT!

SIR!

OLD MAN!

You're making us feel conscious of our age!

THESE FLOWERS TRULY ARE A BEAUTY.

He says he also likes cherry blossoms.

Yes!

YUKITAKA! WE'VE GOT SOME ROOM HERE!

YUKITAKA!

YO YUKITAKA!

Doesn't use honorifics.

OI! DON'T ACT SO FAMILIAR WITH ME!

※NEXT IN LINE FOR CAPTAINCY OF THE KINGEN GUARDS

PEOPLE FROM THE NEARBY VILLAGES ARE EVEN LODGING HERE TO SEE THEM.

...YES.

THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS AT "SAKURABA" WILL BE IN FULL BLOOM SOON.

THANKS, KARAKU-SAN, FOR TAKING CARE OF THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS.

OH, IT WAS NOTHING.

IT GAVE ME SOMETHING NEW TO LOOK FORWARD TO.

WE HAVE TO TELL THE PEOPLE AT THE CAPITAL ABOUT IT BEFORE WE GO BACK HOME.

YEAH.

EVERYONE SHOULD COME SEE IT,

EVERY YEAR, FROM NOW ON...

enjoy the view.

AH, "CHERRY BLOS-SOMS".

LOOKS LIKE RAKAU IS HERE.

SO IT SEEMS.

GOTCHA!

CUP

IT'S COLOR EVEN HAS DIFFERENT SHADES!
IT'S SO CUTE!
REALLY? SO IF I KEEP WAITING HERE, MORE WOULD FALL DOWN?
MORE OF THEM SHOULD FALL DOWN LATER.
NO, GIVE IT A COUPLE OF DAYS.
Please go to sleep at night.
SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT?
NO...
I CANNOT BELIEVE YOU ACTUALLY SAID THAT.
OH!
YOU THOUGHT I WAS CUTER JUST NOW, DIDN'T YOU?
THE FLOWERS BLOOM AND FALL AROUND THIS TIME EVERY YEAR.
NO,
THEY WILL BLOOM AGAIN NEXT YEAR.
WILL THE FLOWERS' TREES DIE ONCE ALL THEY ALL FALL?
THEY'LL BLOOM, FALL,
...I SEE.
PILE UP,
AND SO ON.
THE WORLD WILL LIVE ON...
◆ Extra Story To Be Continued / End◆

Silver Diamond

[VOL.27] CHAP. EX: METAMORPHOSIS

by Sugiura Shiho

We hope you enjoy the scanlation! This is a non-profit fan effort for English fans. Please consider buying this volume (or others!) to support Sugiura-sensei as she brings us fantastic new manga.

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シルバー ダイヤモンド

SILVER DIAMOND

Sujiura Shiho

Volume 27 Chapter Extra

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